



# TEAM TO TACKLE SEX ABUSE GANGS

Report by Tim Spiers

**DUDLEY Council says it is taking action to stop children being sexually exploited after a police report revealed gangs similar to those in Rotherham operate in the Black Country.**

The heavily-edited findings reveal there are 'significant similarities' between child sex abuse here and the scandal in Yorkshire.

Dudley town centre, Lye and Brierley Hill were highlighted as at-risk areas in the borough. The findings are revealed in a West Midlands Police report entitled Child Sexual Exploitation, which was produced in October but has only now been made public.

The 125-page report was released by West Midlands Police after a Freedom of Information request. Large sections of information have been redacted - blacked out - including a map showing where there have been 'high concentrations' of incidents in Dudley.

Dudley Council says a new 'shared regional approach' was now making it easier to tackle child sexual exploitation.

## Identify

Tony Oakman, the council's strategic director for people, said: "This is designed to ensure everyone is working in the same way and is able to share necessary information to identify children at risk as well as offenders."

"We're currently establishing a dedicated child sexual exploitation team and also planning a multi-agency safeguarding hub for the borough which will work with our partners in order to identify children at risk as early as possible. Through our regional awareness campaign, See Me Hear Me, we have been increasing people's understanding of child sexual exploitation and how to spot warning signs."

Between January and June last year, 210 children were identified by councils as having been 'sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation'. The report compares the situation to that in Rotherham, where at least 1,400 youngsters were sexually exploited.

It states: "There are significant similarities to the Rotherham victim/offender and location profiles. It remains difficult for WM Police to quantify how many child abuse crimes or incidents have actually occurred within the West Midlands."

"Targeting of victims takes place mainly at children's homes and schools. Offending typically takes place in private houses or hotels, often under the guise of 'house' parties. Offences also take place in parks."

Offenders are said to be typically of Pakistani origin, aged 17 to 40, and most victims are white females aged 13 to 16.

Other hotspots include Tipton, Smethwick and Rowley Regis.

● Exploitation will not be tolerated — page 2

## MUSEUM TO MARK VE DAY 70TH ANNIVERSARY



Staff at the Black Country Living Museum will be recreating the VE Day celebrations of 1945 at the Tipton Road attraction this Saturday

IT was a momentous occasion and VE Day was celebrated up and down the land on May 8, 1945, as the nation marked Victory in Europe.

Seven decades on, the sights, sounds and celebrations of that day will come to life for the milestone 70th anniversary.

And the Black Country Living Museum is among the attractions bringing the past to life to mark the anniversary.

Staff and volunteers at the Tipton Road museum will be leading celebrations, when the war in Europe ended with victory over

Nazi Germany, with an airing for Winston Churchill's victory Speech and a street party for children at the attraction on Saturday.

Rationing was still in force 70 years ago, and continued for several years afterwards, so visitors will be able to sample such 40s fare as spam fritters from the museum's fish and chip shop.

Abby Bird, of the museum, said: "The museum will celebrate with laughter, dancing and traditional street celebrations."

"Living history will help recreate the atmosphere of the day with visitors able to meet

"Winston Churchill" and listen to his electrifying Victory Speech."

Normal admission fees will apply on the day. Places are limited for the street party.

## Beacon

Other celebrations taking place in the Black Country include the lighting of a beacon on the Rowley Hills on May 8 at 9.32pm, which people will be able to see from miles around.

The next special events at the museum will be at half-term when the museum runs a range of sports activities from May 23 to 31.

## PLANNING

### Concern pub will lose its protection

CAMPAIGNERS fear the decision to give a Cradley Heath pub protection against developers could be overturned.

The Haden Cross in Halesowen Road had been listed by Sandwell Council as an Asset of Community Value, after the community fought plans to build a Co-Op store on its car park.

Last month Sandwell Council planners rejected the application and agreed to list the pub but the owner, Jersey-based New River Retail, has requested a review hearing on the decision. It was the first pub in Sandwell to get the protected status.

## ATTACK

### Man found stabbed at fast food branch

A MAN was taken to hospital with serious injuries after being found with stab wounds at a McDonalds restaurant in Oldbury.

Police have launched an investigation to find out what happened to the man, who is believed to have driven himself to the fast food restaurant in Wolverhampton Road having suffered the injuries elsewhere.

Officers went to the restaurant just after 5.30pm on Tuesday and found him with the multiple stab wounds.

## CONCERT

### Youth singers will be choir's guests

THE Pure Harmony youth singers will be joining Warley Male Choir on stage at Cornbow Hall in Halesowen on Saturday.

Tickets for the concert, which starts at 7pm, will be available on the door. Pure Harmony choir leader Mrs Eleanor Rushbury said: "We are delighted to be singing alongside such a well-known choir and we're sure it's going to be a wonderful evening of wonderful music."

The children's choir is also on the lookout for new recruits. The group meets on Mondays during term time 6.30pm to 7.30pm at Lawrence Lane Methodist Church, Cradley Heath. See [www.vihchoir.org](http://www.vihchoir.org) for details.

## INSIDE

### MINI MANIA AT HIMLEY HALL



PAGE 9

## SHAW STONE SURFACES LTD

## GRANITE WORKTOPS

Unit 11, Mucklow Hill Trading Estate, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, West Midlands B62 8DF  
[www.shawstonesurfaces.co.uk](http://www.shawstonesurfaces.co.uk) email: [sales@shawstonesurfaces.co.uk](mailto:sales@shawstonesurfaces.co.uk) Tel: 0121 503 0817

- Granite, Quartz and Corian Kitchen Worktops
- Template and Installation Service
- Worktop Replacement Service
- 15 Year stain proof granite warranty and 10 year Silestone warranty
- Bespoke vanities for bathrooms
- Hearths and Fireplaces made to measure





<b>2 CONTENTS</b>	
<b>MARK ANDREWS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LETTERS</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>MEMORY LANE</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>FAST TICKET</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>TV LISTINGS</b>	<b>25-27</b>
<b>PROPERTY</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>MOTORING</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>SPORT</b>	<b>39-40</b>
<b>CONTACT US</b>	

**EDITORIAL:**  
Tel: 01384 335203  
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

**SPORTS:**  
Tel: 01902 319453  
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

**PHOTOGRAPHIC:**  
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

**ADVERTISING:** Nicola Cope  
Tel: 01902 319573  
E-mail: nicola.cope@expressandstar.co.uk

**PROPERTY:** Marguerita Finnegan  
Tel: 01902 319627  
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

**MOTORING:** Liz Barratt  
Tel: 01384 353244  
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

**CLASSIFIED:**  
Tel: 01902 317878  
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

**DISTRIBUTION:** Paul Jones  
Tel: 01902 319990  
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Halesowen  
**CHRONICLE**

**51-53 Queen Street**  
**Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES**  
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm  
**www.yourchronicle.com**

**DON'T MISS YOUR**  
**Express & Star**

**EVERY DAY**  
**PETER RHODES**  
The man who takes a sideways look at life

**EVERY SATURDAY**  
**NIGEL HASTILOW**  
He always tackles the hot topics head-on

# Wedding wrecking cheat sent to jail



Jailed — Sarah Cawthorne

A BUSINESSWOMAN who left brides in the lurch by spending more than £30,000 of their money on gambling and a trip to Disney World has been jailed for a year.

Around 100 couples were 'left high and dry' by Sarah Cawthorne and her 'A Little Bit of Bling' business, which had promised glitzy finishing touches to their big day.

Disgruntled women were so annoyed they set up the 'Burned Brides' Facebook page to vent their fury about Cawthorne after they paid for her to prepare their wedding venues.

Cawthorne, of Hickmerelands Lane, Sedgley, was given a 12 month sentence for fraudulent trading at Wolverhampton Crown Court last week.

It is believed at least 100 brides-to-be throughout the UK were defrauded out of a total of more than £30,000 between July 2012 and September 2013.

Mr Mark Jackson, prosecuting on behalf of Dudley Trading Standards, said they received the first of 'an avalanche of complaints' about A Little Bit of Bling on August 20, 2013.

The complainant had paid upfront for items for her wedding, but despite

assurances from Cawthorne, the items did not arrive. When they turned up two days after the wedding, Cawthorne refused a refund.

Mr Jackson said the council and West Midlands Police 'received complaint, after complaint, after complaint' about A Little Bit of Bling. Cawthorne used the wedding money on a trip to Disney World and to fund online gambling.

Mr Mukhtar Ubhi, defending, said the 32-year-old mother-of-two was of good character but addicted to gambling 'which is no less crippling than an addiction to drugs or alcohol.'

# Changes are made to protect the children

**COUNCIL bosses across the Black Country insist changes have been made, following a damning report on the sexual exploitation of children by gangs.**

All four local authorities — Dudley, Walsall, Sandwell and Wolverhampton — were criticised in the West Midlands Police document over a lack of information into the number of at-risk children.

Dudley Council said a new 'shared regional approach' was making it easier to tackle child sexual exploitation.

Sandwell has child abuse 'hotspots' which police and the local authority are monitoring in Smethwick, Rowley Regis and Tipton. Bosses are working with fast-food outlets, taxi firms and hotels to identify risks.

Jan Britton, chief executive of Sandwell Council, said: "Child sexual exploitation will not be tolerated in Sandwell. We are working with other councils and agencies including the police to understand the scale of the problem to make sure we protect children and punish the perpetrators.

"In Sandwell we now screen all vulnerable children and young people to identify whether they may be at risk of sexual exploitation. All council employees are undergoing training in how to identify child sexual exploitation and what to do if they suspect anything."

## Thousands

The number of allegations of potential abuse or harm against children runs into the tens of thousands for the first six months of 2014 in the West Midlands.

A referral is made every time an allegation is made. These can be made by teachers, police, doctors, children centres or a housing association. Referrals can be made for a variety of reasons, including abuse or neglect. Other reasons include absent parents, family dysfunction or parental illness.

Between January and June last year one of the highest numbers in the Black Country was seen in Willenhall with 1,252 referrals. In Wolverhampton there were 1,371 referrals, while between Dudley and Brierley Hill there were 683. Smethwick had 271 referrals, Lye 54, Rowley Regis 51 and Tipton 28.

## Apartments for over-55s snapped up



Lime Gardens — the new Midland Heart development of 120 apartments in Slade Road, Cradley

MORE than half of the apartments at a new £16million retirement village — built on the site of the former Cradley High School — have been snapped up.

Lime Gardens, which has 120 homes for the over 55s, welcomed its first residents three weeks ago.

Among the facilities are a gym, games and hobby rooms and a coffee shop. There are also woodland and garden areas and a greenhouse.

John Millar, acting housing boss at Dudley Council, said: "This is

the third extra care scheme that we've developed in partnership with Midland Heart and represents the future of housing for older people. It really is first class, both in terms of the physical build, quality of care and the fantastic range of facilities on offer."

Matt Colloby, of developers William Davis Limited said: "The Lime Gardens development is a classic example of collaborative working. Everyone involved should be very proud of their achievements."

Ruth Cooke, chief executive at Midland Heart said: "We have a great staff team, great facilities and I'm confident our customers will be very happy here in a safe, secure environment."

It's the third development of its kind in Dudley from Midland Heart, following similar schemes on the Russells Hall estate and in Coseley. The scheme, which has created 60 jobs, is designed for people aged over 55 to live independently in their own apartments.

# Woolworths staff among losers due to Euro ruling

THOUSANDS of workers made redundant by the closure of Woolworths have lost a long battle for compensation.

A decision by the European Court of Justice (ECJ) means that 3,200 ex-employees of Woolworths will not receive any money. The decision also affects 1,200 former staff at clothing chain Ethel Austin, which went out of business five years ago.

The workers missed out because they were based in Woolworths stores employing fewer than 20 staff, whereas their colleagues in larger sites qualified for compensation.

Their union said they were 'heartbroken' by an ECJ ruling.

Shopworkers' union Usdaw has been fighting for compensation since Woolworths collapsed in 2008.

Under UK law, workers in smaller stores are excluded from an obligation to consult over redundancies and do not qualify for compensation.

Udaw general secretary John Hannett said: "This decision marks the end of the road for our members from Woolworths and Ethel Austin seeking justice and they are heartbroken.

"Our case is morally and logically robust, so today's verdict is a kick in the teeth. It is unfair and makes no sense that workers in stores of less than 20 employees were denied compensation, whereas their colleagues in larger stores did qualify for the award.

"These were mass redundancy situations where one central decision was made to close the whole company down."

# Arson suspected after factory fire

ARSONISTS are suspected to be behind a fire that destroyed part of a factory in Dudley.

The building in Saltwells Road, Primrose Hill, went up in flames at 12.30pm on Friday.

Crews from Dudley and Haden Cross fire stations were called to tackle the blaze, which caused extensive damage to part of the factory, which is currently vacant.

Haden Cross Fire Station watch commander Desmond Lloyd said the fire was 'definitely arson'. He said: "The fire was contained to an internal office block which was three metres by five metres.

"Everything inside was destroyed. The potential for it to get out of control was there but the important thing was us getting there quickly."

# Road is closing for work on gas pipes

A ROAD will be shut for 12 days while work to improve gas pipes takes place.

School Lane in Hagley, near Stourbridge, will close from its junction with the A456 Birmingham Road and Hall Meadow. It will be shut from Friday, May 15.

**ABLE & BROMLEY CARPETS/BEDS**  
WHOLESALE & RETAIL WAREHOUSE

**UPTO 75% OFF** Vinyls • Laminates & 3 Piece Suites Est 1978

Disabled. Can't Get Out. OAP Or anyone needing that extra help? Can't come to us - We'll come to you We will bring 100's of carpet samples and bed brochures to your door

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T  
Remove and take away old carpets/beds  
Move heavy furniture and shave doors  
**PLUS FREE FITTING ON SELECTED RANGES**  
Terms and conditions apply.

Unit D Dormston Trading Estate, Burton Road, Upper Gornal  
**www.ablecarpets.co.uk**  
**FREEPHONE 0800 0853747** COVERS ALL AREAS

Halesowen • Cradley • Oldhill • Blackheath • Hasbury • Hayley Green • Rowley Regis • Oldbury

Adrian Bromley  
**01902 880541**

**Concept BLINDS** UP TO 50% OFF ALL BLINDS

Vertical & Roller Blinds  
New season fabrics now available

Child Safety Features Fitted Free of Charge

**5 YEAR GUARANTEE**

Also available  
• Romans • Pleated  
• Conservatory Roof Blinds  
• Wood Venetians  
• Venetian Blinds  
• Curved Tracks for Bay Windows

**FREEPHONE 0800 5875279**  
Open Seven Days a Week  
**0121 429 3169**

**FREE** fitting on all blinds

**FREE Home Quote. FAST Delivery**

**HOMECLAD**

- FASCIAS
- GUTTERING
- SOFFITS
- CLADDING
- TILE EDGING

**BEST VALUE IN THE MIDLANDS**  
PREMIUM PRODUCTS EXPERTLY FITTED BY A LOCAL FAMILY COMPANY

**SPECIAL OFFER**  
FREE guttering and downpipes

**0800 73 13 946**  
CALL FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE  
8 ABBOTSFORD DRIVE DUDLEY DY1 2HD

**Broken Dentures?**

\*\*\*\*\*  
1 hour denture repair service  
\*\*\*\*\*

**New Dentures**  
available & made at...

**The Dental Shop**  
Est. 1981

**01384 413444**

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, W. Mids. B64 6HE  
**www.the-dental-shop.co.uk**

**FOOTWORKS Chiropody Clinic**

- Full range of services with disabled friendly access
- Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Footcare
- Corns and Calluses

**01384 413444**

201-203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill B64 6HE  
**www.footworkschiropridists.co.uk**



## GP services in borough avoid extra pressures

MORE than 17,000 extra patients have registered with GPs in and around Sandwell in the past two years. But the number of Dudley-registered patients has dropped.

The figures have been released by the Health and Social Care Information Centre.

Across the West Midlands there has been an increase of almost 50,000 patients in two years, at a time when GP surgeries are already under tremendous pressure.

Long waiting times for appointments have been reported across the region.

In the Black Country it is in Sandwell and West Birmingham where the biggest increase has been reported. In April 2013 the area had 538,683 patients registered by a GP. Now that number is 555,864 — a jump of 17,181. However, in Dudley there has been a surprising drop of 150 patients, down to 314,713.

Dr Jas Rathore, GP and clinical lead for Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "Dudley has a stable population with minor variation from year to year."

The Sandwell figure reflects an increase seen across Birmingham, particularly in the south and west of the second city.

Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG spokesman James Turner said: "We have above average birth rate locally, and a higher than average transient population."

Across England numbers have gone up by almost one million.

## Man is rescued from burning car

A MAN was pulled from a burning car following a smash in Dudley.

The car crashed into a ditch near the junction of Smithys Lane and Coopers Bank Road in Pennett just after 4pm on Sunday.

The driver, a man in his 50s, was dragged from the car by a paramedic as it began to be engulfed by flames. Fire crews then arrived to put out the blaze.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman Jamie Arrowsmith said: "Shortly after getting the man to the grass verge, the entire car became engulfed in flames. The fire service was quickly on scene to put the fire out."

"The man was treated for a head injury and transported to Russells Hall Hospital for further assessment."

## Quiz and curry night at scout hut

HAGLEY Cricket Club will host a quiz and curry night on Friday, May 15, at Hagley Scout Hut. The bar opens at 7.30pm with the quiz at 8.30pm in the Hall Lane venue. It is £10 per ticket, up to six in a team.

# Gunman is jailed after shots hit car



Gunman — Taniya Beckford

A GUNMAN who opened fire on another man outside a notorious Black Country nightclub has been jailed for 10 years.

The victim, who is in his 30s, was sitting in a car which was sprayed with bullets, but, miraculously was not injured.

CCTV cameras at the scene captured the shooting outside Pulse nightclub in Brierley Hill on film and led to Taniya Beckford being caught.

Beckford, 35, of Duchess Road, Ladywood, Birmingham pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life and was sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court last week

Police carried out a search of Beckford's home and discovered a loaded gun with 15 rounds of ammunition.

The weapon was handed over to experts at the National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS) and they found that the Hungarian-made FEG pistol had been used in the shooting on January 26, 2014.

Beckford was arrested in November 2014, charged and remanded in custody.

DI Darren Crutchley, from West Midlands Police Serious and Organised Crime Unit, said: "The sentence handed down demonstrates how seriously the

courts take gun crime. The victim in this case could have been killed.

"We would like to thank our colleagues at NABIS for their work which assisted our case and proved that the gun found at Beckford's address was the same weapon used in the Pulse shooting.

"Gun crime levels across the West Midlands have fallen over the last decade and we will continue to work hard to keep our communities safe."

Last year Pulse nightclub in Dudley Road had its licence revoked by a Dudley Council after police said it had become a haven for notorious gangs.

# Pools to be out of action during half-term break

**THE two swimming pools at Halesowen Leisure Centre will be out of action for three weeks, including the half-term school holiday.**

Dudley Council said maintenance work needs to be carried out from Monday, May 18, until Sunday, June 7.

Bosses said while 'essential' work was carried out, the temperature of the water in the main pool and learner pool would be too low for them to be used by swimmers.

All other parts of the leisure centre, including the gym and fitness studios, will remain open as normal, during the work taking place in the plant room.

The council said that despite half-term, it was generally a quieter time for the pools and there would be fewer people using them than when they are used by school groups.

Swimming clubs which use the pools have been offered alternative sessions at either Dudley Leisure Centre or Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge, which are both open throughout the period that the Halesowen pools are closed.

### Impact

John Millar, the council's environment boss, said: "There is never a good time to have to close any of our facilities but we have tried to time this essential work as best we can to minimise impact on users."

"The pools at Halesowen are popular among groups and clubs and we are offering places at our other centres to ensure they can be accommodated."

"I would remind people that all other parts of Halesowen Leisure Centre will remain open as normal throughout the works."

Recent figures show the number of visitors to the leisure centre has increased from 393,733 in 2012/13 to 399,688 in 2013/14. The total number of visits to the borough's three leisure centres went up from 1,231,326 in 2012/13 to 1,275,557 in 2013/14.

Bosses say increasing the range of activities on offer and a £1.5 million revamp of the gyms had attracted more people.

Anyone needing information about pool opening times at the Crystal and Dudley leisure centres can call (01384) 812800.

Dudley Council has also been carrying out a review on the future management of leisure centres in the borough to see whether savings could be made in future years.

## Ear's a good idea for holidaymakers



Ian Bailey with the website for his innovative Aerbuddies product to help airline passengers who suffer ear pain

A BUSINESSMAN from Halesowen is hoping a new contest started by top entrepreneur Richard Branson will help get his innovative product off the ground. Ian Bailey believes he has solved a problem which affects millions of people. His company Aerbuddies Ltd, based in Dudley, has developed a product designed to help air passengers who suffer with ear pain.

It was while trying to find a

remedy for his children's ear pain that Mr Bailey, of Alexandra Road, saw a gap in the market. After more than five years — including disappointment on the real Dragons' Den — the former salesman and his team have come up with an earplug which he is confident will make the pain go away for air passengers.

He has secured a patent for his design and is now looking to take it to market. It is an issue that he

says affects around 10 per cent of adults who fly and 20 per cent of children — a large target market.

Mr Bailey said: "The low humidity in aircraft cabins affects the eardrum, even on short-haul flights. Then, when there is inward pressure as the aircraft descends the eardrum hasn't got the flexibility and that's when blood vessels start to burst."

Mr Bailey has entered the Virgin boss's Pitch to Rich contest.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Homes on way as plans are revived

PLANS to build dozens of homes in Cradley Heath, which were first submitted nearly a decade ago, have moved a step closer.

Developers have revealed detailed proposals for homes on land off Bannister Street.

International Design and Construction first unveiled the plans in 2006 but, despite getting planning permission, work was stalled by the recession. The company has permission to build 48 apartments and nine houses and has now put forward further details to the council.

### John Lewis jobs are up for grabs

FIVE hundred jobs are up for grabs at the glitzy new £35 million John Lewis department store, which is changing the face of Birmingham city centre.

One of the largest John Lewis shops outside of London, the floor area will cover 250,000 sq ft — the equivalent of three and a half football pitches. The shop will be the anchor tenant of the new Grand Central retail development, which sits over redeveloped New Street Station.

Recruitment for positions at the store has now begun. See www.jljobs.com for details.

### Town's brews are toast of festival

AN ale from a Halesowen brewery won beer of the festival at Stourbridge and Halesowen Campaign for Real Ale's recent annual event.

Drinkers were invited to vote for their favourite and the most popular was Single Speed Citra, brewed by Fixed Wheel Brewery in Long Lane.

In second place was Bob64, a 6.5 per cent strength ale from Angel Ales, also based in Halesowen. The festival held in Stourbridge Town Hall featured more than 90 real ales.

### Trust's mental health app proving a success

A PHONE app originating in Dudley that offers health advice has been downloaded 4,000 times.

WellMind, Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust's first mobile app, offers tips on mental health. Launched on World Mental Health Day in October, download figures continue to grow with the app being downloaded by 20 people a day on average. Trust chief executive Gary Graham said: "We are really pleased that people like WellMind."

### Ibsen play is staged

OLDBURY Rep presents its latest production, Henrik Ibsen's classic play A Doll's House, from Saturday.

It is being staged at the theatre in Spring Walk, Langley, May 9 to 16. Tickets are £8 and £10 from the box office on 0121 552 2761. For more information visit www.oldburyrep.org

# SPRING IS HERE!

## Is your Property due a Spring Clean?

BTF

www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk

Narrow Lane, Halesowen,  
West Midlands. B62 9ND

Tel/Fax No: 01384 568345

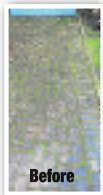
Mob: 07979 211302

CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED

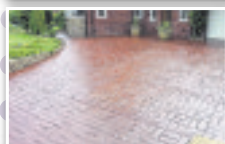
**BTF Cleaning Services has been established for over 15 years, carrying out external cleaning services for commercial and domestic customers across the Midlands**



All UPVC professionally cleaned including gutters / fascias / soffits / conservatories / orangeries and window frames



Block paving and patios jet washed / sanded / weed killed by the latest flat surface cleaning equipment



Concrete imprint drives repaired / coloured and sealed



Our team of professionals use the latest cleaning equipment and methods





## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



"IT'S hot and upbeat, like the jauntiest level of Hell."  
Australian comedian Deborah Francis-White on Radio 4, explaining her reluctance to return to her native Oz.

RESEARCHERS in Germany are investigating a link between gum disease and dementia. No surprises there, then. Oral hygiene, or the lack of it, has already been linked to diabetes, stroke and heart disease. The surprise is that, whatever the mouthwash companies may tell you, there is still no remedy for advanced gum disease. History will probably judge how many billions of dollars chucked at research into diabetes, stroke, heart disease and dementia would have been much better spent finding a cure for bleeding gums.

AND now the computer takes over from telly. All six episodes of the new Peter Kay comedy series *Car Share* were available on iPlayer before being screened on BBC1.



It is clever, lovely, life-affirming stuff, as you would expect from a national treasure like Kay, and the casting of unknown Sian Gibson as the shop worker sharing Kay's car, and morphing from plain lass to rock chick as she fantasises about being a pop star, is perfect. I loved the misheard confusion over who had been assassinated. Was it

JFK or Geoff Capes?

NEVER let the facts get in the way of a good headline such as: "Could wolf-whistling be a crime?" The truth is that Poppy Smart's distress at a building site in Worcester had nothing to do with mere wolf-whistling. It was about the 23-year-old being repeatedly confronted and embarrassed in the street by builders who thought they were God's gift to women. The police have had a few quiet words with them, which is precisely what the police should do in a situation like this. And it's exactly what these leering navvies would demand if it were their wives, girlfriends or sisters suffering the same intimidation. The defence "It's just banter, innit?" doesn't apply when it's your own loved ones.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Alcoholic stabbed two sisters in horror attack

**A MAN who stabbed two Stourbridge sisters with a kitchen knife after pushing their 88-year-old grandmother to the floor has been jailed for ten and a half years.**

John Loveridge left Amy Brookes and his former partner Jessica Brookes needing surgery after lashing out with the foot long weapon in the horrific attack on October 31 in Oldswinford.

By Robert Cox

The 48-year-old then used the knife to slash his own throat and it was only the intervention of two police officers that saved his life. Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Judge Nicholas Webb told Loveridge it was clear he posed a serious risk of future harm to the public and he ruled he would only be allowed back onto the streets when he was considered safe by the parole board.

### Restraining

He extended the licence of Loveridge on his release from prison by a further five years and made a restraining order forbidding him from any future contact with the sisters or their grandmother.

He had attacked all three victims inside their own home in Oldswinford.

Loveridge stabbed Amy Brookes three times in the neck, arm and chest and she suffered a collapsed lung in the attack. Jessica Brookes, the mother of his child, sustained a stab wound to the throat and also received a

serious hand injury as she tried to defend herself.

"You have a history of alcohol abuse," the Judge told Loveridge, who carried out the attack after a two-day drinking session.

"It is clear to me you are dangerous."

"A report says there is a chance of repeated offending by you and it is a report I agree with."

Loveridge of The Steps, Harvington, Evesham, admitted wounding Jessica and Amy Brookes with intent to cause them both grievous bodily harm.

He further admitted assaulting their grandmother and possessing an offensive weapon.

Mr Duncan Craig, prosecuting, said Loveridge forced his way into the family home, pushed the grandmother to the floor and stabbed the sisters.

Mr Christopher O'Gorman, defending, said Loveridge was full of remorse for what he did.

## Neighbours dig up a grenade



Lucky escape — Alan Greasley and Mark Billingham

ALAN Greasley unearthed far more than he bargained for while working on a neighbour's garden in Rowley Regis.

The 53-year-old was busy digging when all of a sudden his shovel struck an object — which turned out to be a live hand grenade dating from the Second World War. He called police but then picked up the grenade and showed it to a neighbour — not realising it was live.

Police were on the scene in minutes, followed by an Army bomb disposal unit. Soldiers cordoned off the house as the fist-sized bomb was taken to a disused quarry for a controlled explosion.

Mr Greasley, who had been helping neighbour Mark Billingham in Newhall Road sort out his garden, said he never imagined the grenade would be live. He struck the object with his shovel at a depth of about 2ft in the soil.

It was No. 36 military grenade with its pin intact. Known as the Mills Bomb and made in Birmingham, it was a standard issue weapon for British soldiers.

Mr Greasley added: "The pin itself was corroded. It could have gone off."

## Council staff face move in park row

TWO hundred council staff may get the boot from Mary Stevens Park due to complaints that they clog up all the parking spaces.

Bosses are now looking at other venues following claims that families and other park-users can't find a parking space.

Since 200 Dudley Council children's services staff were transferred to a park building last year, campaigners have complained council workers are taking up all the parking spaces at the site. There are claims that some of the cars have been vandalised in recent weeks.

Margot James, who is standing for re-election as Stourbridge MP, said the park was being 'monopolised' by council staff and becoming inaccessible to anyone who did not live within walking distance. Council bosses have ruled out extending the car park, saying it would be too expensive.

Philip Tart, strategic director for resources and transformation at Dudley Council, said: "We recognise that parking at Mary Stevens Park has become an issue and we have been working closely with the local community to resolve it."

"We are currently looking at a number of options including reviewing which staff work from the council offices and alternative ways of working, including off-site."

LARGE DISCOUNTS ON ORDERS PLACED IN MAY

Give it That  
Personal  
Touch...

...Make Your  
Conservatory  
Your Own

**Over 70%**

of our orders come from recommendations

- ✓ Windows
- ✓ Composite Doors
- ✓ Porches
- ✓ Patio Doors
- ✓ Conservatories
- ✓ Window & Door Repairs
- ✓ Fascias / Guttering
- ✓ Building Work
- ✓ Misted-up Units

CLIENT  
PEACE OF  
MIND



ALL INSTALLATIONS PROJECT MANAGED FROM START TO FINISH



**Window Warehouse Ltd**

Established over 20 years

**Telephone: 0121 544 2222**

97 Park Lane,  
Langley,  
Oldbury  
B69 4LP



FENSA



Website: [www.window-warehouse.com](http://www.window-warehouse.com) | Email: [windowwarehouses@btconnect.com](mailto:windowwarehouses@btconnect.com)

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM OPENING HOURS: Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm Sat 8am - 1pm

## Tanalised Garden Buildings

### Loglap Summerhouse

20 x 10 **£2100.00**  
16 x 8 **£1500.00**  
12 x 8 **£1350.00**

### Apex Garden Shed

20 x 10 **£1500.00** 12 x 8 **£750.00**  
18 x 10 **£1400.00** 10 x 8 **£700.00**  
16 x 8 **£1300.00**



### Pent Garden Shed

16 x 8 **£1300.00**  
20 x 10 **£1500.00** 12 x 8 **£750.00**  
18 x 10 **£1400.00** 10 x 8 **£700.00**

All of our  
buildings are fully  
tanalised  
22mm loglap cladding  
tanalised  
3x2 cls framing tanalised  
20mm floor boards  
tanalised  
12mm t&g roof boards  
tanalised

**Telephone 01384 944116**

**Unit 4, Silverend Trading Estate  
Wedgbury Way, Brierley Hill DY5 3LA**

**ALL OF OUR BUILDINGS ARE FREE DELIVERY  
IF YOU MENTION THE CHRONICLE ADVERT**



## Nightclub allowed to open until 6am

A NIGHTCLUB in Stourbridge has been allowed to extend its opening hours to 6am despite objections from police, neighbours and councillors.

The Stourbridge Academy, in Hagley Road, will now be able to stay open later on certain nights.

It comes after licensing bosses decided the venue was run well enough that it wouldn't pose a risk to its cumulative impact policy.

Prior to the decision being made, Dudley Council had received objections from West Midlands Police, local residents and councillors concerned that extending the hours could lead to trouble. The club currently stays open until 4am on certain nights.

A licensing sub-committee chaired by Councillor Jackie Cowell last week approved the hours with restrictions imposed that last entry would be at 3am. Police would be given 14 days notice before any event expected to go on until the new cut-off time.

On behalf of the management, barrister Sarah Clover, said: "These new hours simply provide flexibility for the management to be able to run events until later, it is not something they will be doing seven days a week."

Councillor Nic Barlow had originally opposed the plans but after the meeting said he felt 'reassured'.

# Opposition growing to Britain First march in town

A SECOND rival protest has been announced to counter a demonstration in Dudley by far-right group Britain First.

The Unity Rally will join a group of war veterans under the name of 'I'm a UK veteran and not a racist, and proud of it' in the town on Saturday.

They are countering the planned demonstration being held by Britain First, who say more than 2,000 of their members will protest at plans for a new mosque in the town.

By Andrew Turton

It will take place just three months after the town centre was brought to a standstill by similar protests from members of the English Defence League.

Police have held talks this week with Dudley Central Mosque and Dudley Muslim Association regarding safety on the day.

Officials at Dudley Central Mosque and Dudley Muslim Association will hold an open day event at the Castle Hill venue from 10.30am to 4.30pm on Saturday. More than 200 attended the mosque when officials held a similar event during February's EDL rally.

Mosque chairman, Mohammed Aurangzeb said: "We will not let far right groups, wherever they are on the spectrum, to disrupt our normal way of life and dictate how we resolve issues that affect us locally."

Spokesman for the Unity Rally, Jerry Langford, said the group would work with police to ensure it was a peaceful protest.

The group, which held a similar protest in opposition to the EDL, will hold their event in Castle Street from 11am to 3pm.

Mr Langford said: "Dudley Unite Against Fascism, supported by Dudley Trades Union Council, have called a Unity Festival in Dudley on Saturday to stand in solidarity with Dudley's Muslim community, who they are directly attacking, and send a message that Dudley stands united."

Traders have voiced concerns about the impact on businesses on Saturday.

Britain First claim on the group's Facebook page that 2,100 people have pledged to attend and will meet at 1pm on the Flood Street car park.

## War victory celebrated at Haden Hill



Back to the 40s — Penny Phillips, of Solihull, wearing 1940s fashion at Haden Hill House Museum on Monday

VISITORS were transported back to life in the Second World War during an event to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

Haden Hill House, in Cradley Heath, was awash with nostalgia and bathed in sunshine on Bank Holiday

Monday for the celebration. Historic cars were parked by the house and guests dressed in period outfits and uniforms.

Union flags were also out in force as hundreds arrived to visit the museum in Haden Hill Park.

Sandwell's visitor services officer, Alison Hyatt, said live music made the event go with a swing.

There will be further events this weekend to mark tomorrow's anniversary of Victory in Europe Day at the Black Country Living Museum.

## Libraries provide dementia corner

LIBRARIES in Dudley are launching a new collection of books and resources for people with dementia and those who care for them.

The Reading Agency has worked with healthcare experts, people with dementia and carer groups to select 25 'books on prescription' titles that provide support and advice.

Copies are now available at all 13 libraries in the borough and are being promoted to celebrate national Dementia Awareness Week, from May 18 to 24.

A 'dementia corner' has been set up in Halesowen and Dudley libraries which will house the collection along with other useful resources. Deborah Harkins, chief officer responsible for libraries, said: "The books cover information and advice, and personal stories."

## Best of British is choir's inspiration

A MIXED voice choir with 70 members is tuning up for a concert in Cradley Heath next weekend.

Viva Musica will be performing at the Salvation Army Citadel on Saturday, May 16.

The theme is British composers of contemporary choral music, and will include pieces ranging from John Rutter and Karl Jenkins to Paul McCartney and Elton John.

Tickets cost £9 available by calling 01562 883480 or 0121 550 5581. For further details visit [www.viva-musica.co.uk](http://www.viva-musica.co.uk) or the choir's Facebook page.

Step into  
Spring  
with...

Windows & Conservatories, Orangeries,  
Porches, Fascias & Soffit Boards

# RYDALE

**MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE  
ON MAY INSTALLATIONS**

Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.

Supplied &  
Fitted...across  
the Midlands

Long Lane, Blackheath,  
Halesowen B62 9LS

Open Weekdays 9am to 5.30pm  
Saturday 9am to 4pm  
Sunday Closed

Make the **RIGHT** decision this  
Spring and give Rydale a ring...

**FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060**  
**[www.rydalewindows.co.uk](http://www.rydalewindows.co.uk)**

Visit one of  
the largest  
conservatory  
and window  
showrooms  
in the UK



No deposits or  
stage payments, you  
only pay when the  
installation has  
been completed





IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Hangover? Just hang garland round neck

THE throbbing headache, the churning stomach, if there ever was a real cure for a hangover its creator would make billions.

Well according to boffins at Oxford University, the ancient Egyptians thought they had it cracked.

Instead of Alka-Seltzer and ibuprofen, the ancient Egyptians believed that walking around with a garland round your neck is the best way to cure that morning-after feeling.

It's an interesting thought. But I would just love to see the conversation with the copper when explaining the unusual item of clothing at three in the morning.

□□□□□

THE milestone birthday arrives, and the tabloids can barely control their excitement. Pages of coverage for days on end, and countless pictures.

No, not the new royal Princess, David Beckham's flippin' 40th birthday...

Does anybody really care? Forgive my indifference, but isn't it time we all learned to get over the middle-aged underpants salesman?

It has been many years since he played football at the top level, and I really don't understand what the continued fascination is with the man who always promised so much, but ultimately failed to live up to expectations.

When he burst into Alex Ferguson's exciting Manchester United side in the mid-1990s, he had the world at his feet, a prodigious talent who set the Premier League alight.

However, his story is ultimately one of a player who became so engrossed in the celebrity lifestyle that he never quite fulfilled his undoubted potential. Yes, he could cross a ball beautifully, and he had a fine free kick, but he always gave the impression of being more interested in partying with pop stars than getting stuck in on the football pitch.

A good footballer, yes, but never the great one he could have been.

And regardless, his footballing days are long over, so why do we need to be treated to endless pictures of him in his underwear?

Maybe to ladies of a certain age he is the bee's knees, but to me he is still the bloke who kicked the Argie up the bum and threw away our hopes of getting one over the old enemy.

□□□□□

NOEL Gallagher has confessed that he steals plump pillows from Italian hotels so he can get a good night's sleep on tour.

Keith Moon used to throw television sets out of hotel windows. Ozzy Osbourne bit the head off a bat. Noel Gallagher half-inches fluffy soft furnishings.

Rock'n'roll excess. It ain't what it used to be, is it?



Slade perform Them Kinda Monkey's Can't Swing



On the road and on the water in between performances



The boys enjoy themselves with some water for the fans



Tom Conti as the band's manager Robert Seymour



Noddy, Jim and Dave are caught on camera



Don's character Charlie, with one of his foundry colleagues

Flame and fortune

PETE MADELEY takes a look at Slade's short-lived silver screen stardom, 40 years on from their movie's release

IT has been described as 'the Citizen Kane of British pop films' and features one of the world's most successful rock bands performing in a gritty expose of the darker side of the music industry.

It's now 40 years since Slade in Flame hit cinema screens, starring Black Country glam troupe Slade playing fictitious musicians in a made-up band.

At the time they were riding the crest of the wave on the back of a string of number one hits including Cum On Feel The Noize, Skweeze Me, Pleeze Me and Take Me Bak 'Ome. But movie-goers expecting bell-bottomed hi-jinks and Walsall's Noddy Holder screaming 'It's Christmaaaaaaassss!' every five minutes were in for a shock.

What they got was an at times bleak view of the music business, complete with unscrupulous agents, dangerous gangster types and a band's rise to stardom followed by inevitable fall from grace.

Fantasy

Sure there's humour – a furious Noddy singing while padlocked inside a coffin on stage is comedy gold – but this was not your average film about a rock band.

It was a million miles away from The Beatles' A Hard Day's Night, the rock star fantasy of the David Essex vehicle Stardust and various glam rockers' bizarre Never Too Young To Rock. According to Slade drummer Don Powell, that was precisely what the band intended.

"We had no interest in making another typical film about a rock band, that had already been done," said Don, who lives with his family in Aarhus in Denmark.

"None of us really knew what we had let ourselves in for. But we ended up with a film that comes across as pretty dark."

"It shows the downside of the music business, all the crooks and the gangsters."

Don returned to Wolverhampton the city of his birth as guest of honour at a Slade convention at the Robin 2 club in Bilston, organised



Slade at the Robin in 2013, from left, John Berry, Dave Hill, Don Powell and Mal Nulty

to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the iconic movie. Filmed over the course of six weeks at locations across the UK, Slade in Flame follows the fortunes of a fictitious band as they hit the road to the big time at the tail end of the swinging 60s.

In the film members from two rival bands join up to form Flame, giving them the same line up as the real-life Slade – Noddy Holder, Don Powell, Dave Hill and Jim Lea.

From then on it's a telling tale of a young band marketed and exploited to the point where they eventually tire of the whole business and pack it all in.

The idea for a film was hatched by Slade manager Chris Chandler, who saw it as the next logical step in the band's successful career.

It was written by Andrew Birkin – with more than a little guidance from the band themselves. "The first story Andrew brought to us wasn't really what we wanted," said Don.

"So we took him and Richard Loncraine (director) on tour with us to the States for a few weeks. If you want to know what life in a band is like, go out on tour!"

"They came to all the gigs and travelled with us – really got to know us as people. There's a lot of spare time and we would tell stories about daft things that had happened to us and other bands."

"Andrew had a tape recorder with him all the time. Although the film is fictional a lot of what you see in there actually happened in real life, although not necessarily to us."

The early scenes of two young bands plying their trade around bingo halls and weddings certainly echo the pre-Slade band The 'N Betweens. And Don's character Charlie is shown grafting in a factory – a nod to his early real-life job as a foundry worker in Willenhall.

The aforementioned Noddy-in-a-coffin scene reflects the antics of Screaming Lord Sutch, who was once trapped inside a coffin on stage while he performed with his band The Savages. But there are times when the film departs wildly from reality.

In one memorable scene Jim Lea sees Noddy tending to his pigeons. "Come in," invites Noddy, covered from head-to-toe in pigeon muck. "They're vegetarians."

"To this day I'm sure Noddy has never

done anything like that," chuckled Don. "The thought of Noddy training pigeons! I think Andrew pulled that one out of the sky."

Respected actors were also brought onto the cast, including Alan Lake who played the appropriately named Jack Daniels and Tom Conti as the band's manager Robert Seymour.

Fresh from a stint at Her Majesty's pleasure, Lake was fired during his first day on set after enjoying a lengthy liquid lunch – only to be reinstated when his wife Diana Dors agreed to police his sobriety for the remainder of filming.

Don admits his nerves began to jangle prior to filming, his concerns exacerbated by a tragic car accident he was involved in that killed his fiancée Angela Morris and left him suffering severe short-term memory loss.

He said: "I had amnesia after the car crash and thought: 'There's no way I'm going to be able to learn my lines'."

"But of course I didn't have to learn the whole film in one go. I would learn what I needed to before I went on set, so it wasn't as hard as I thought. I actually found it was great mental exercise for me to learn things. I spent a lot of my spare time on set watching how things are done."

The film also spawned a best selling book by John Pidgeon and a soundtrack which sold 170,000 copies before the film was even released. "Slade has always been about the music first and foremost," said Don. "We definitely weren't actors."

"The music was a central part of the film, but after it had premiered it wasn't the music that most people were talking about." Don is alluding to the somewhat mixed response Slade in Flame garnered from fans and critics alike. Some of the reviews were positive – with the BBC's Barry Norman praising it for having 'real grit' and 'real integrity' – while others suggested fans were better off just listening to the soundtrack.

Don said that sections of the band's fanbase struggled to come to terms with the harsh realities of the music business depicted in the film. There's also an argument that the film may have ended up damaging Slade's career. They never scored another number one hit single in the UK after its release, having had six between 1971 and 1973.

"Part of the problem was that people couldn't get their heads around the fact that we were playing characters, not ourselves," Don muses. "But I'm glad we did it and I'm proud of the film."

SPRING SALE



- ✓ Old Buildings Removed
- ✓ Asbestos Disposal
- ✓ Base Laying Service
- ✓ Free Quotations

CONCRETE GARAGE ROOF REPLACEMENT SERVICE

Wooden Sheds

FULL TONGUE & GROOVE



Fitted prices from

6ft x 4ft £239  
7ft x 5ft £269  
8ft x 6ft £299

Concrete Garages



Fitted prices from

Single Garage 16ft x 8ft £1499  
Double Garage 16ft x 16ft £2999

Summer Houses



Fitted prices from

7ft x 5ft £575  
8ft x 6ft £685  
8ft x 8ft £745

Log Cabins & Garden Rooms



Fitting service available

Wall Log 44mm T&G  
Double Glazed  
Insulated Options

✓ Huge Range ✓ Made To Measure Service ✓ Lined & Insulated Options ✓ Quality At Competitive Prices

Show site (open 7 days): Tildasley Street, West Bromwich B70 9SJ (Next to Staples)

Visit our website: www.bettabuildings.co.uk

Call us now: 0121 553 4682

We make it BETTA BUILDINGS



## Yet more M6 money down the drain

SO it appears £65 million must be spent on the M6 conurbation in the West Midlands. How much more cash do they need to throw at this motorway? I for one do not put any faith in a motorway with a non-running hard shoulder, very nice in bright weather, not so good in rain or dark conditions. Motorway signs on gantries help, if they work.

To me the hard shoulder is and should be for emergency only, not running vehicles.

The money spent so far on upgrading this particular piece of motorway going through Junctions 8, 9, 10, 11, together with the

proposed £65m could have built M6-2 as opposed to HS2. Why not try to do a deal with the owners of the toll road; surely £65m would be welcome in their coffers? A large problem is the M5/M6 junction, the M5 should have been routed to join M6 north of Stafford where the traffic thins out a little.

It just goes to show when viewing the hold-ups and congestion the economy is booming and the best way to send goods is by road transport, regardless.

**M SAXON**  
Tipton

## Manor Way crossing call

THE excellent picture of cycling legend Hugh Porter campaigning to get a crossing installed outside Manor Abbey Stadium in Halesowen illustrates the difficulties of trying to cross Manor Way. However, it is not just cyclists and athletes who need to traverse the dual carriageway here, as residents also have to cross to get to and from bus stops. This involves clambering over the crash barriers.

The barriers were erected after a number of accidents in which vehicles collided with oncoming traffic, a 'safety measure' that clearly gave little consideration for the wellbeing of pedestrians.

Speeding traffic is endemic at this location with vehicles travelling at 70-80mph despite the 40mph speed limit. Residents will hope that the campaign to get a crossing is successful.

**D FORT**  
Halesowen

## Hedgehogs need help to survive

AS we are in Hedgehog Awareness Week — which runs from May 3 to 9 — I am writing to ask your readers to 'Think Hedgehog'!

Hedgehog Awareness Week is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and takes place every year.

Tips can be found on our website at [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)

There is so much that we can do to help the hedgehog in our own garden.

Offering hedgehog food, or a meaty pet food and water, especially during dry weather, can be a life saver.

Also, cut back on pesticides, cover drains or deep holes, and ensure there is an easy route out of ponds and pools.

These measures will take five minutes to do and help immensely.

With hedgehog numbers in serious decline, helping them is more important than ever.

**FAY VASS**

British Hedgehog Preservation Society

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Sandwell Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

[sandwell.chronicle@  
expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk)

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Super hospital is not only solution

IT has become apparent to me over the past few months, that whilst the new 'Super Hospitals' incorporate all of the new equipment that cannot be put in place in all of the smaller hospitals, there is a need for more local community hospitals.

Here non-acute patients can receive treatment and rehabilitation by dedicated staff who have the time and expertise to help people towards discharge, that the bigger hospitals cannot provide.

This is not meant as a criticism of the front line at the super hospitals but pure common sense. This is not only my view, but that of many people with whom I have had conversations.

Our leaders would have us believe that bigger is best, but this is not the case. Patients are individuals each with individual needs and it is about time that this were recognised by those making the rules. Perhaps with smaller hospitals it may be that managers could manage effectively, rather than it seems at present.

Perhaps the biggest insult of all though, is to read of the huge salaries and increases in salary of the chief executives whilst front line staff receive nothing. Maybe these executives should spend more time on the shop floor talking with relatives of patients who have so many complaints.

**L HALES**  
Cradley Heath

## Club HQ is in wrong place

MANOR Way is, like it or not, one of the busiest arteries to one of Britain's biggest cities and is used by thousands of people every day, who face quite enough congestion already.

While I sympathise with the problems faced by members of the cycling and athletic club, the suggestion of a placing a pedestrian crossing there would be as logical as putting a similar obstacle across the Birmingham-London railway line. The club have unfortunately got a wholly unsuitable site and should look elsewhere.

**PETER HODSON**  
Halesowen



**ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF CARPET IN THE COUNTRY**  
**SALE NOW ON**

**Over 200 Part Rolls ALL LESS 50%**

**At STD we have the best fitters and we are NEVER undercut on price**

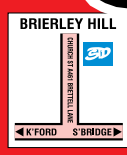


### Contract Quality

	Normal Price sq yd	Sale Price sq yd
Axminster 80/20	£79.95	£29.95
Brintons Axminster 80/20	£59.95	£17.95
100% Wool Naturals	£19.95	£7.95
Tomkinsons 80/20 Wool Twist	£35.00	£9.95
Brintons Bell Twist 80/20	£35.00	£12.95
Heavy Duty Saxony	£19.95	£9.95
Stainfree Heavy Twist	£18.95	£6.95
Gel Back Kitchen Carpet	£12.95	£3.95

**Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30**  
**Sunday 10.30 to 4.00,**  
**Closed Wednesdays**

**Church Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3PT**  
**01384 76448**



# Starkey Electrical Ltd

Manor House, Manor Lane, Halesowen Domestic, Commercial & Industrial Electricians

email: [stuart@starkeyelectrical.co.uk](mailto:stuart@starkeyelectrical.co.uk)

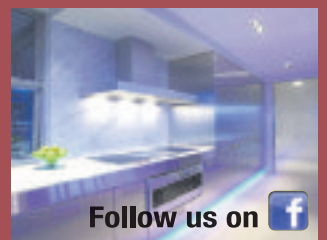
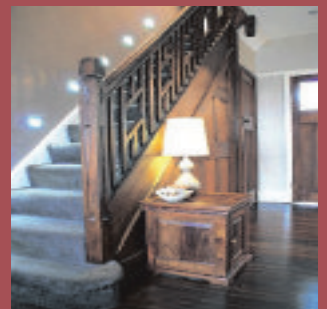
**0121 423 3883 Office**  
**07967 650567 Mobile**

[www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk](http://www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk)



- For all your electrical needs in your home, garden, driveway or office/retail premises
- Emergency call outs -7- days a week
- Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated
- Competitive prices/ FREE quotations
- Energy saving LED Lighting
- Fuse board replacements

- Rewiring
- Landlord Certification
- General electrical maintenance
- Supply / install of electric roller shutter garage doors
- Electric heating systems
- Inspection & testing
- Shower upgrades
- CCTV & intruder alarms



**Starkey Electrical Ltd - Your local, energy efficient electrician**

Follow us on



## INSPIRATIONAL FIRES & FIREPLACES

Official stockists of



Showroom: 404-406 Bearwood Road, Bearwood B66 4EX Tel: 0121 429 3186



Opening Times: Monday-Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm

www.inspirationalfires.co.uk email: info@inspirationalfires.co.uk



## Be Inspired...

## Black Country Glazing (Est 1987)

Manufacturers & Installers of  
windows, doors & conservatories  
A rated Windows As Standard

10 Year Guarantee

FREE QUOTATIONS



Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ

01384 566100

www.blackcountryglazing.com

Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth



## A-Zee Fix

DOUBLE GLAZING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

Telephone: 01384 259761 Mobile: 07769 975841



Repairs and Upgrades  
Insurance Work  
Failed Units  
Broken Locks  
Door Panels  
Letter Boxes  
Sticking Doors  
Handles and Mechanisms

- 70mm Internally Glazed High Security Frames
- 28mm Pilkington 'K' Units
- Document L Compliant
- Shoot Bolt Locking
- Sight Line Glazing
- Secured By Design PAS023 / PAS024



White  
Light Oak  
Rosewood  
Woodgrain on White

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

PHONE TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTATION



## Examples of Bodgers' art on display

Grange 'E' TG

THE monthly meeting was held at Grange Court, Prescott Road, Stourbridge on April 7.

Chairman Hazel Smith presided and gave a very warm welcome to all, especially three new full members and three guests. Minutes from the previous meeting were read, accepted and signed. Treasurer Jill Attwood gave her latest financial report.

A visit to the Rose Theatre, Kidderminster has been arranged. Marlene O'Hanlon asked members if they would like to continue the monthly Lunch Club and it was agreed with the first to be held at The Old House at Home, Blakedown, on May 11 at noon.

It was reported that donations of copper coins for Lye Disabled and items for the Food Bank were still coming in on a regular basis.

Speakers for the evening were introduced as the Bantock Bodgers, a group of ladies who demonstrated the art of rag rugging.

Members were given the opportunity to try their hand at the craft. Many samples of work that the Bantock Bodgers had made were on display.

The vote of thanks was given by the chairman.

Hot cross buns and tea/coffee were then served by the committee and the raffle was drawn with three ladies winning a prize. Cakes were available on the sales table for members to purchase.

Recruitment for new members is going well. For any ladies wishing to come along as a visitor, call secretary Jean Williams on 01384 832439.

## Dinner to celebrate guild's 60th birthday

Sedgley Evening TG



Guild chairman Jan Wynn and Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Margaret Aston get into the party spirit

THE guild enjoyed a celebratory dinner at Sedgley Community Centre to mark its 60th anniversary.

More than 50 members were present at the event, which was attended by the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Margaret Aston, together with representatives from the West Midlands' Federation.

Greetings were read out from the National Chairman, Margaret Key. The event also acknowledged the 90th birthday of its honorary president Edna Chapple.

Meetings of the Sedgley Guild were initially held in the home of one of its founding members in Catholic Lane, Sedgley.

Some 60 years later, the guild continues to meet at 7.15pm on the third Monday of each month at Sedgley Community Centre for talks by guest speakers.

It also runs craft and walking groups and plans a range of theatre visits and outings. New members and visitors are always welcomed.

At the next guild meeting on May 18 meeting, Anne Clarke will give a talk on the theme of 'A Coseley Tragedy'.

## Talk on an influential family

THE next meeting of the society takes place on Thursday, May 14 at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street.

The very short Annual General Meeting was followed by a presentation - The Rise & Fall of the Whitehouses of Turlis Hill.

Lorna Stevens has spent more than 10 years researching one of Woodsetton's most influential families. The family home was Turlis Hill House and there were strong links to All Saints Church, Sedgley and St

Sedgley local History Society

Mary's, Hurst Hill. The Whitehouse money was made and lost in coal mining and running blast furnaces.

This large Victorian family is well-documented and Lorna has discovered some intriguing stories, papers and diaries.

As usual visitors are invited to come along. Individual talks cost £1.

# HIGH-SPEC

## Windows & Conservatories

**FREE** 40 mm triple Glazing  
for price of double

**UP TO  
50% OFF**  
A RATED  
FRAMES AND  
GLASS

**BIGGEST**  
Midlands Manufacture  
Over 50,000 sq ft factory  
VISITS ARRANGED

**10yrs**  
Insurance  
Back  
Guarantee

**FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE**



**RING NOW 0121 552 9777**  
**FREephone 0800 007 5312**

Open 7 days a week Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm

FACTORY & SHOWROOM - ROOD END ROAD, OLDBURY, B68 8SF

**www.hightspecinstallations.co.uk / hispec-sales@outlook.**

\*Terms & Conditions Apply All major credit cards accepted



Loft & Garage  
conversions



Bay windows



Smoking Shelter / Veranda  
Al Fresco Dining / Carport



Conservatories



Extensions &  
plans drawn up



Porches



Patio/French /  
Bi-Folds Doors



Composite /  
UPVC Doors



# Mini mania as owners meet up at major show



British Mini Day organisers Dave and Nicky Hollis from Stourbridge with a 1989 Mini 30 edition and 2007 Mini Cooper

**A FORMER rally driver will be the special guest when Mini owners flock to Himley Hall for Sunday's major show by the British Mini Club.**

Paddy Hopkirk, aged 82, will get the motor running on the club's summer programme at Himley Hall.

Mr Hopkirk, from Northern Ireland, won the 1964 Monte Carlo rally in a Mini Cooper S. Alongside Henry Liddon, he was one half of the last all-British team to win the rally.

The veteran of rallying's golden age

will be signing photos for Mini enthusiasts visiting the event.

There will also be a premier class concours competition with 12 different classes to choose from, catering for every model of Mini.

Running alongside, there will be the Mini Show 'n' Shine display, with sections for both classic and modern models of the iconic car.

Dave Hollis, a member of the club's Midlands branch, said visitors would also have the opportunity to buy spare parts for from trade and auto jumble stands. There will also be the opportunity to buy Mini memorabilia.

He added: "This will be the 23rd

year that we have been doing the show at Himley Hall and we have got quite a strong following over the years."

The club was established in 1992 and has since grown to welcome thousands of members. The BMC will have a membership centre situated in the heart of the show area.

There will also be the chance to buy a classic Mini at the event. Tickets will be on sale from 10am at the BMC membership centre.

Entry to the show costs are £9 per person (£7 for BMC members), while children under 12 can go free accompanied by an adult. To find out more see [www.britishminiclub.co.uk](http://www.britishminiclub.co.uk)

# STOP PAIN...

..With our specialist in Acupuncture, Acupressure, Cupping & Ear Candle



We can help if you

- Suffer with pains in neck, shoulder, elbow, lower back & knee
- Suffer with pain or arthritis, trapped nervous, soft tissue injury & sciatica
- Suffer with pain from swollen joints after operations such as hip replacement and knee replacement
- Suffer with overweight

We can also help

- Infertile couples to get pregnant with a high success rate through acupuncture and herbs
- Infertile couples improving egg quality and sperm count prior to IVF treatment

Or any symptoms you are not sure of, visit us for a confidential consultation or telephone for an appointment

UK Registered  
20 Years  
Experience

Open 10.30 - 5.30  
Monday - Saturday

10B Peckingham Street,  
Halesowen

0121 585 9393



## Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd

**Replace Your Tired Kitchen, Bathroom or Bedroom with a MAKEOVER...**

**from the Bespoke Specialists**  
**Replace Only What's Needed**



**NO SALESMEN!**

Did you know that, 80% of our customers are retired? Find out why they trust us for yourselves...

**40% OFF**  
**Doors and Drawers**  
**31st May 2015**

**PLUS 10% OFF**  
All New Kitchens, Bedrooms, Bathrooms  
Book your no obligation Quote Today!!  
**0121 550 4821**  
Offers cannot be combined

All types of  
Flooring supplied  
and Wet Wall  
Solutions for  
Bathrooms

Range of  
Kitchens,  
Bedrooms and  
Bathrooms to suit  
all budgets

OVER 100 DOOR STYLES  
AVAILABLE IN ALL  
COLOURS.

WORKTOPS AVAILABLE  
STANDARD, QUARTZ  
ENCORE AND WOOD.

ALL CABINETS AND  
WARDROBES BESPOKE  
MADE TO  
MEASURE SIZES

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



## Homeowners...

### Looking to sell?

Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay

### Just moved in?

Let us help to transform your property into a dream home

### Decided to stay?

Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential

**Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life**

We are licensed  
credit brokers  
(No. 612945)

**CUSTOMER SATISFACTION GUARANTEED**  
**www.qkm.org.uk WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN!!**

## The largest working Luce kitchen in the Midlands at

149 Cinder Bank, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9BL Tel 01384 232413  
Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm, Thursdays 9am - 7pm, Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Head Office & Showroom  
Oak Lodge Buildings, Furnace Hill  
Halesowen B63 3LZ  
0121 550 4821  
Open Mon - Fri 9.30am - 5.00pm  
Sat Closed

Stourport Showroom  
33 High Street,  
Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8BE  
01299 877718  
Open Mon - Sat 10.00am - 5.30pm  
Thursday 10.00am - 7.00pm

## At QKM

We are dedicated to offering our customers the finest service within the home improvement market

**THE GUILD**  
**OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN**

Membership No A120074

'We have customers who would be more than happy to show you the excellent standard of work'



Appliances: Neff, Bosch, Rangemaster, Belling, Hotpoint, Stoves and many more

Franke Sinks 50 Year Guarantee

What our customers say!

"...it looks like a palace..."  
"...definitely recommend 'Quality Kitchens' to our friends and family..."  
"...totally professional from beginning to end..."



# Hawthorn Windows



A family run business with majority of work coming from recommendations

Why pay more? Deal direct with the owners, no salesmen, and see the difference  
**Doors from £450**  
**Composite Doors from £630**  
**Conservatories from £4500**  
 Ring for more details

Specialists in Door, Window, Porch and Conservatory Installations  
 Composite Doors from £630  
 Wide choice of colours available

Misty units replaced  
**WE OFFER GREAT DEALS ON ALL UPVC PRODUCTS**  
 Quality products at quality prices  
 10 year guarantee  
 Faulty door locks and window hinges replaced  
**We will beat any quote**  
 FENSA registered

Unit 1, Shenstone Trading Estate, Bromsgrove Road,  
 Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3XB  
 Tel: 0121 559 6320

## Drunken yob kicked peacemaker in the head

**A THUG who kicked a man in the head during a drunken attack in Halesowen town centre has avoided an immediate jail sentence.**

Maximillian Colley subjected Neil Chivers to such an horrendous attack that he was left with a collapsed lung.

Witnesses said they saw Colley, aged 22, kick his victim's head 'like a football' as he lay on the ground.

**By Richard Guttridge**

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how violence flared after Colley, of Iverley Road, Halesowen, was thrown out of Wetherspoons on Queensway at around 1.30am on December 20 for acting aggressively.

CCTV showed Colley urinating in the road before he was approached by another man, David Abraham. The pair exchanged words before Mr Abraham punched Colley. Mr Tim Pole, defending, said it was this act that sparked the violence.

When Mr Chivers stepped in to try to calm matters, Colley pushed him to the ground and unloaded a series of punches to his head before getting up and kicking Mr Chivers in the head.

Prosecutor Paul Spratt told the court: "Mr Chivers was now prone on the ground, mumbling 'I can't

breathe'. This was a significant attack on a man who had done nothing wrong."

Mr Chivers spent five days in hospital after the attack. Colley had pleaded guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm as well as a separate charge of affray for pushing a woman to the ground during the melee.

He was given a 20-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, and ordered to pay £2,500 in compensation to Mr Chivers. Colley must also complete 200 hours of unpaid work.

Recorder David Mason told Colley he was fortunate to avoid an immediate jail term for his 'disgusting' actions. He said: "When you first saw the CCTV footage you said you couldn't believe you had done it — but you did because you got drunk and couldn't handle it."

## Historic telegram is found in clear out



**Wing Commander Guy Gibson whose death was kept quiet so as not to damage morale**

A TELEGRAM announcing the death of a Second World War hero has been unearthed, revealing how the RAF hushed up the news to preserve morale.

Wing Commander Guy Gibson was a distinguished member of the Royal Air Force's 617 Squadron, which he led during the famous Dam Busters raid in 1943.

His death, aged 26, was initially only revealed to fellow officers and it was up to two months later before it was made public.

The telegram, marked 'confidential', from Air Marshal Harris on November 19 to officers' mess 617 Squadron reads: "Regret to inform the mess that W/C Gibson and S/L Warwick now confirmed killed as a result of air operations over Germany on night of 19 Sept. I have informed the Prime Minister and NoK (next of kin)."

A handwritten note penned by Group Captain James Tait states: "Read out to the mess but did not inform men."

The telegram was found being used as a bookmark as Fieldings Auctioneers, based in Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge, carried out a house clearance. Fieldings say the telegram could fetch £600 at auction in Stourbridge on May 16.

## "I switched and saved almost £300"

**Sign up to Dudley's Big Switch to save money on your home energy bills**

The Big Switch aims to get the very best home energy deals for local people. It's free to register and there's no obligation to switch, you can't lose.

**Simply call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345**

**Register by 18 May 2015**



Or, you can also register online and find out more information at [www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/bigswitch)





# Students learning from the master chefs



Simpsons chef director Luke Tipping, centre, with chef de partie Stuart Deeley and cookery student Zerline Long

CATERING students from Halesowen College are getting top tips from a Michelin star restaurant in Birmingham. Two former students of the college, Luke Tipping and Stuart Deeley, are part of the team at Simpsons Restaurant in Edgbaston and will be returning to college to do a cookery masterclass in front of students. At Simpsons, Luke is the chef director and Stuart is a chef de partie.

For many years Halesowen College catering students have had the opportunity of work experience at the acclaimed restaurant.

Zerline Long, who is studying her City & Guilds Level 3 VRQ Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery, has just started her placement at the restaurant on Highfield Road, which has held a prestigious Michelin star since 2004.

# £1.3m upgrade for paths

A £1.3 million scheme to improve walking and cycling routes in Dudley borough will see paths revamped.

Overgrown and worn-out footpaths in the Quarry Bank, Saltwells and Merry Hill areas will be re-surfaced and drains renovated as part of the improvements.

Work is now getting under way in all three areas after £75,000 was dished out from the £1.3m fund. It marks the latest cash boost to roads in the area thanks to funding from Centro, which looks at public transport projects in the West Midlands.

Work should be completed by the end of the month with cash taken from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF).

Officials say the improved paths will allow people to walk or cycle from Saltwells Lane and Mushroom Green to Merry Hill using routes at Saltwells Nature Reserve, with the aim of getting people more active.

The route covers just under a mile and will be made suitable for wheel-chair and buggy users.

The council is cutting back overgrown shrubs and trees on the paths.

Dudley has received a total of £1.3m of LSTF funding through Centro as part of its Smarter Network Smarter Choices Programme.

# Picture BINGO

## Recycle, Match & Win

### Item of the week

Item of the week: Small Dog dog food.

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council serco

www.sandwell.gov.uk/bingo

# FRIENDLY SERVICE YOU CAN TRUST

## EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE AT TYRECITY... We won't let you down

Clean and comfortable waiting areas, knowledgeable staff state-of-the-art car care facilities and a huge range of Tyres always in stock at **DISCOUNT PRICES!**

**FREE FITTING ON ALL WORK GUARANTEED**

**TYRES**

**EXHAUSTS**

**BRAKES**

**BATTERIES**

**PRICE MATCH**

WE PROMISE TO MATCH ANY GENUINE ADVERTISED 'PRICE' YOU CAN FIND ON ALL OUR PRODUCTS & SERVICES\*

**BRAKE PADS REPLACED FROM £49.95 FORD FIESTA**

**MOT CLASS 4 ONLY £25 INCLUDES FREE RE-TEST**

**EXHAUST COMPLETE OR PART SYSTEMS FROM £34.95 VAUXHALL CORSA B**

### TYRES

### WHEEL ALIGNMENT

### TYRE REPAIR

### BRAKES

### EXHAUSTS

### SERVICING

### MOT's

### BATTERIES

## TYRECITY

:: LOW PRICES • FAST FITTING ::

www.tyrecity.co.uk

OPEN Mon-Fri 8am-6pm Sat 8am-5pm

0121 5595093

45 Long Lane Halesowen B62 9LS

Want to join our Team?

Due to continued expansion we are currently looking for **EXPERIENCED** staff with good knowledge of all aspects of Tyres and Autowork.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT STEVE ELDRIDGE ON **07802 610 840**

**NOW HIRING**

\*ADVERTISED PRICE IS ANY GENERALLY DISTRIBUTED, PUBLICLY VIEWABLE AND VERIFIABLE INSTALLED, OUT THE DOOR PRICE, ADVERTS SUCH AS NEWSPAPERS, DIRECT MAIL AND INTERNET. PRICE MATCH DOES NOT APPLY TO VERBAL QUOTES OR INDIVIDUAL ESTIMATES



12

Halesowen Chronicle

Thursday, May 7, 2015

HJ COOPER

TIMBER & DIY

Firewood & Logs

Decking & Accessories • Tanalised or Planed

Mouldings • Skirting, Architrave • Dado Rail Ply Woods MDF

HALF PRICE SALE ON

DOORS & WORKTOPS

OSB Boards • Pinboard • White Hardboards • Door Frames

Stair Parts • Flooring • Fencing & Fencing DIY • Paints Felts

TRADE & PUBLIC CALL

01384 254591

DELIVERY AND CUTTING SERVICE

Unit 19, Thornleigh Trading Estate, Farthings Lane, Dudley DY2 8UB







Probably the only small pets and animals motel in town

• Small Pets Motel

• Pet food and supplies sold

• Small friendly family business

Tip E Toes

0770 108 4934

Unit 8, Dudley Port Business Centre, Dudley Port DY4 7RQ

Are you a member of a local voluntary group?

Do you have a good news story?

Do you need to promote an event for a charity or a local good cause?

The Halesowen Chronicle needs local news stories for your local paper for you the local reader.

Please call the chronicle team on 01902 319 588

# Talented folk are coming to town

By Danny Farragher

THERE will be some serious musical talent congregating in the Black Country this month for the Stourbridge Folk Festival.

Among the names playing over the four day event are Luke Jackson and Lucy Ward. The festival which runs from May 20 to 24 is the brainchild of Stourbridge's own Sunjay Brayne and Eddy Morton who will both be playing at Katie Fitzgerald's, 187 Enville Street, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.

The festival kicks off on Wednesday May 20 with Ranagri and Eddy Morton.

Ranagri is a new venture from four musicians Donal Rogers (vocals and guitar), Eliza Marshall (flutes/ethnic whistles), Jean Kelly (electric-harp) and Tad Sargent (bodhran and bouzouki). The band fuse world folk music with contemporary song writing and haunting melodies, interlaced with storytelling.

## Founder

Eddy Morton has worked all over the UK, Ireland and the USA supporting many top acts including, The Saw Doctors, Manfred Mann, Ralph Mettel and Lindsafarne. He is also a founder member of the Bushbury Mountain Daredevils. Tickets for the show are £8 in advance or £10 on the night and the doors open 7.30pm

On Thursday May 21 Lucy Ward takes to the stage supported by Stourbridge band Kim Lowings & The Greenwood.

Ward is an award-winning, 24-year-old artist from Derby who plays guitar, ukulele and concertina. After winning the Horizon Award at the 2012 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, Ward's career

Stourbridge blues and acoustic player Sunjay Brayne is part of the festival

has gone from strength to strength.

Kim Lowings & The Greenwood have established themselves on the British Folk Scene. Song writer and Appalachian Mountain dulcimer player Kim Lowings sings with a wonderfully pure voice. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the night, doors open at 8pm. Booking is recommended.

On Friday May 22 Eddy Morton & The Bushburys are on stage supported by Sunjay.

Sunjay who runs the Stourbridge Folk Club has established himself as a respected singer and bluesman and recently finished a national tour with Steeleye Span. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the night. Doors open 8pm and booking is recommended.

The next day on May 23 highly acclaimed singer/song writer Luke Jackson takes to the stage. Jackson, aged 20, is from Canterbury, Kent.

In 2013 he was nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards for both the Horizon Award for Best Emerging Talent and The Young Folk Category. He

has recently released a new extended EP This Family Tree.

Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the day. Doors open 1pm and booking is essential.

Then on the night Flat Stanley, with support from Danni G, will be playing in the cellar bar. This is a concert in support of the Stourbridge Foundation For Music, so entry is free and doors open 8pm

On the final day Sunday May 24 Chris Smither is in concert with support from Sunjay

Smither draws deeply from the blues, American folk music, modern poets and philosophers.

Tickets £13 in advance or £15 on the day. Doors open 1pm and again booking is recommended.

Organisers urge anyone planning to go to the festival should check the details for each concert as door times and ticket prices may vary, and it's important to note there is no Wheelchair access.

Under-18s get free entry to all folk club events but the club welcomes donations.

## Express & Star Shop

EASY STEAM WINDOW CLEANER

JUST £29.99 WAS £79.99 SAVE £50

2 YEAR WARRANTY

easy steam

Ideal for leaving glass and other reflective surfaces spotless, this window steamer takes all the hard work out of cleaning. The powerful 1300W device creates steam that enables you to clean windows at a much faster rate than ordinary window cleaners. It boasts a detachable water tank with a capacity of 300ml and requires no chemicals or detergents to remove dirt, kill bacteria and completely disinfect windows. Its lightweight and compact design and safe, sturdy handle makes it easy to use and the combination of the rubber wiper, microfibre cloth and buffing mitt will ensure a streak-free finish. The steamer takes just four minutes to heat up ready for use. Dimensions: L34 x W28 x H14cm.



EASY STEAM MOP

JUST £29.99 WAS £79.99 SAVE £50

2 YEAR WARRANTY

easy steam

Use the power of steam to clean and disinfect your home without resorting to harmful detergents. This mop heats up instantly and eliminates dust mites, bacteria and grime.

Featuring a clever triangular mop head and swivel joint to allow it to reach into corners and other tight spaces, the mop has a 1300W motor that generates temperatures of 90°- 100°C. Suitable for all heat-resistant floors, including hardwood, tiles and stone, the mop comes apart for easy storage. A glider attachment is included for use on carpets. Two handy microfibre cloths are also included.



MAXI VAC

JUST £29.99 WAS £59.99 SAVE £30

2 YEAR WARRANTY

maxi vac

The all-new Maxi Vac really cleans up where others fail. Weighing less than a quarter of the weight of the UK's leading upright vacuum cleaner, the lightweight Maxi Vac delivers the power to clean up. Using the latest bagless technology, the 600W motor delivers direct suction all of the time.

At a little over 3lbs, it's so easy to use and converts from an upright to a hand-held vacuum in seconds. Ideal for those who struggle with a larger vacuum cleaner or those with limited storage space, Maxi Vac makes light work of cleaning stairs, upholstery, curtains and carpets.







To order call 0871 911 7011\* Quote 50269

Online at EXPRESSANDSTARSHOP.CO.UK

Lines open 8am-8pm 7 days a week \*Calls cost 10 pence per minute from a standard BT landline. Mobile & other providers' charges may vary.

Our 'was' pricing refers to the original selling prices offered on our website www.cjoffers.co.uk, and in our retail store between 26th January 2015 and 26th April 2015. Allow 7 working days for delivery. If not happy for any reason we will accept return of faulty/unworn goods in sealed original packaging for full refund or replacement within 14 days (shoes and clothing within 30 days). These goods are sold and supplied by BVG-Airflo Ltd. with whom you contract when you accept this offer. A SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON DELIVERY.

RETURN TO: EXPRESS & STAR (50269), PO BOX 87, BRECON, LD3 3BE

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (for queries only) \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my cheque/PO made payable to BVG-AIRFLO LTD for £ \_\_\_\_\_ Or please debit my card £ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro Issue No. \_\_\_\_\_

My card number is: \_\_\_\_\_ Start date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Midland News Association Ltd and other MNA companies or selected third parties may contact you with details of goods and services you may be interested in. By placing this order you give consent to Midland News Association Limited or selected third parties doing so, unless you have indicated your objection by ticking this box ☐ If you do not want to hear from selected third parties and ticking this box ☐ If you do not want to hear from Midland News Association Ltd.\*

PLEASE SEND ME	CODE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Window Steamer	D6591		£29.99	
Pack of 3 Spare Wipes	D6592		£4.99	
Steam Mop Blue	D7149		£29.99	
Steam Mop Green	D6430		£29.99	
Pack of Three Spare Mop Heads	D6431		£9.99	
Maxi Vac - Black	D7335		£29.99	
Accessory Pack	D4103		£6.99	
Spare Filters	D7828		£4.99	
Please add £3.95 P&P				£3.95
TOTAL				



# Black Country pupils in pioneering maths scheme

SCHOOLS in the Black Country have been trialling a maths programme that enables teachers to monitor pupils' progress online.

A total of 24 schools across Dudley, Sandwell, Birmingham and Walsall have received £500,000 funding from the Education Endowment Foundation for the Maths Flip programme. It is a two year project working with pupils in years five and six to help them to improve their skills.

The resource enables pupils to carry out 'pre-learning' whereby their teacher posts a Powerpoint presentation to an online site and the children then complete a task so the teacher can see how well they

have done and adjust their classroom lesson accordingly.

Jennifer Devaney, project manager at Shireland Collegiate Academy in Smethwick, said the course replaced the traditional pen and paper method of doing homework and made it easier for tutors to keep track of their pupils' work.

She said pupils reported benefits with their SATS results, while teachers felt they could shift their focus onto harder concepts and problem solving, rather than having to wait for pupils to catch up.

In total, 540 pupils are participating in the project, which could be copied at schools across the country.



Teacher Claire Watmore with Abdul Noor, Molly-Mae Wilkinson and Maria Kaid from Halesowen CE Primary

# Fake stamps and illegal cigs seized

THOUSANDS of contraband cigarettes and suspected counterfeit first class stamps were seized during raids in Dudley.

Four properties in the town were searched by trading standards officers and police following a tip off about the illegal supply of tobacco.

A total of 5,340 illicit and counterfeit cigarettes, 25 packs of tobacco and 1,873 suspected counterfeit first class stamps were seized.

An investigation has been launched by Dudley Council following the raids which took place last month.

John Millar, acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing, said: "Together with our police colleagues, we searched four properties in Dudley, following information about the illegal supply of tobacco. Investigations are ongoing and we are unable to comment further at this stage."

# Ambulance service is named as the best

THE West Midlands Ambulance Service has been named as the best performing service in the country.

Its paramedics responded to heart attack patients faster than anywhere else and control rooms staff were quickest to answer 999 calls.

Only two services bettered its performance for reaching all other types life-threatening emergencies.

In the Department of Health figures, the service also came second for the amount of time it took for a patient-carrying vehicle to reach scenes of emergencies.

Its performance across the board during 2014/15 could not be matched by any other service.

The service's chief executive Anthony Marsh said the results demonstrated the 'incredibly hard work' of ambulance staff.

Figures showed West Midlands Ambulance Service had beaten its target of reaching patients who were suffering heart attacks or severe breathing difficulties within eight minutes. That happened 77 per cent of the time, two per cent above its target and higher than any other ambulance service in the country.

The service fell one per cent short of the same target for reaching all other life-threatening emergencies but came third nationally. Emergency calls were answered in under one second on average during the 12-month period.

In total, 96 per cent of calls were answered in under five seconds, one per cent above the average and the highest in the country.

Mr Marsh said the re-

By Richard Guttridge

sults were the 'testament to the hard working staff' of the trust and added that the level of care given to patients was 'second to none'.

"There is no doubt that 2014/15 was an incredibly challenging year for all ambulance services, with rapidly rising demand and continued delays at hospital which have a hugely adverse impact on our ability to get to patients," he said.

"Despite that, the fact that we have done so well is testament to the incredibly hard working staff of the trust. However, getting to patients quickly is only part of the story. The level of clinical care that our staff have given to the patients they have treated is second to none. In many respects this is far more important than speed of response.

"Whilst this is an excellent level of performance, we are in no way complacent and are the first to admit that we can make further changes to the service we deliver," added Mr Marsh. "We are continuing to move forward with developments that will improve still further the way we treat and support patients."

# Authors to discuss their favourite books

THREE authors will be visiting Dudley to help book lovers share their enthusiasm for reading.

The Readers' Afternoon event takes place on May 16 between 1 and 4pm at the Archives and Local History Centre. The visiting authors are Fiona Joseph, Samantha Hayes and Robert Ronsson.

Birmingham-born Fiona has written a biography of Beatrix Cadbury and a new novel about Cadbury workers caught up in the First World War. Samantha Hayes, from Warwickshire, writes psychological thrillers and Bewdley author Robert Ronsson's second novel Out of Such Darkness is set in the aftermath of 9/11.

Deborah Harkins, chief officer for libraries, archives and local history, said: "People can find out what authors read themselves and what inspires them as well as asking questions about their work."

Tickets £5 include afternoon tea. Call (01384) 812770.

# WILLIAM & SONS

## CLEARANCE

### SHOWROOM & WAREHOUSE RE-ORGANISATION

**ITS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW!**

**ALL THIS WEEK & WEEKEND**

**"To prepare for our end of year stock-taking, we're clearing large quantities of surplus lounge, leather, living & bedroom furniture, including beds!"**

**■ ALL STOCK MUST GO! ■ SAVE UP TO 75%! ■ ALL STOCK MUST GO!**

<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£1289</b> <b>ALSTONS GATSBY</b> Classical grand sofa, chair & banquette stool in luxurious fabrics 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £3289 Save £2000	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£859</b> <b>SALOTTI ITALIA CAIRO</b> Luxurious cream sofa in CAT 20 real Italian leather 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £2159 Save £1300	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£399</b> <b>CAXTON CONRAD</b> 7 item complete contemporary light oak dining group OVER 70% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1649 Save £1250	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£429</b> <b>CAXTON SEATTLE</b> PP63SRM 3 door mirror robe & PP69 5 draw chest in poppy oak finish 80% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1069 Save £640
<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£399</b> <b>BUOYANT KENILWORTH</b> Classically styled wing chair & stool in Rosehip duck egg blue fabric 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1009 Save £610	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£999</b> <b>HTL CREMINA</b> Large twin power motion sofa in CAT25 two-tone taupe & silver grey leather 55% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £2199 Save £1200	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£379</b> <b>ZONE CARMARQUE</b> Contemporary light oak dining table & 4 x brown faux leather dining chairs 70% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1249 Save £870	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£199</b> <b>KINGSTOWN ARIZONA</b> Model AZH2590 double bedframe 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £539 Save £340
<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£999</b> <b>STEED TOWCESTER</b> Classical small sofa, easy chair & scatterers 75% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £4069 Save £3070	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£1599</b> <b>TCS CAMILE</b> Large sofa with twin jumpo powered recliners & recliner chair in IT cream leather 55% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £3580 Save £1981	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£99</b> <b>MORRIS PALOMA</b> Model MER106 light oak nest 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £249 Save £150	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£164</b> <b>NOLTE SALERNO</b> Tall 5 draw chest 70% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £549 Save £385
<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£879</b> <b>WELBECK HOUSE LOPEZ</b> Large chaise sofa & chair in aqua blue contemporary plain fabric with scatterers LESS THAN HALF PRICE TO CLEAR! Was £2129 Save £1250	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£865</b> <b>SITBEST SLOGEN</b> Model S Scandinavian styled swivel power recliner chair in Paloma Melon OVER 55% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1965 Save £1100	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£199</b> <b>BAKER GERONA</b> Contemporary styled GE10 coffee table in rich walnut finish OVER 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £539 Save £340	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£849</b> <b>FURNITURE ORIGINS</b> Cleveland smoky oak complete bedroom display 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £2259 Save £1410
<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£399</b> <b>ROM FIONA</b> Contemporary accent chair, scatter cushion & stool set in dale grey fabric 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £985 Save £586	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£499</b> <b>ESSENTIALS VENEZIA</b> Contemporary corner group in Paloma brown base leather OVER 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £1499 Save £1000	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£249</b> <b>FURNITURE ORIGINS</b> CLEVELAND Model C4801 1pt bookcase in radical smoky oak finish 60% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £629 Save £380	<b>CLEARANCE</b> <b>£105</b> <b>SILENTNIGHT</b> Mattress Now "roll up" Foam double mattress 75% OFF TO CLEAR! Was £419 Save £314

Lounge...

Leather...

Living...

Bedrooms...

Alstons

ROM

BUOYANT

WADE

SEIDING

MYER'S

RelaxCreeze

STEED

HTL

ZONE

HARRISON

**HUGE DISCOUNTS available on all special orders and brand name furniture!**

**WILLIAM & SONS**

Level Street  
Merry Hill, Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY5 1UA  
T. 01384 77444  
www.williamandsons.co.uk

**CLEARANCE OPENING TIMES:**  
**Monday to Friday 10-5.30pm**  
**Saturday 10-6pm**  
**Sunday 11-5pm**

All offers are subject to availability. E&OE







## The Ultimate Shopping Experience

Whether your taste is contemporary, traditional, modern or classical, Cousins have the answer. The choice is enormous, all beautifully displayed in truly inspirational room settings.

Put that alongside incredibly low prices on all items throughout the stores including the famous brand names, you will have the ultimate shopping experience.

## LOW PRICES THROUGHOUT THE STORES



Pay Nothing for a year, No Deposit, then 48 monthly payments of

**£29.14**

Total Price £1399

Save £700

Madison complete cornergroup  
Now £1399 | Was £2099

SOFAS  
CARPETS  
BEDS  
DINING  
BEDROOMS  
LIGHTING  
MIRRORS  
PICTURES  
CUSHIONS  
COOKSHOP

in every  
**style**  
& finish



Pay Nothing for a year, No Deposit, then 48 monthly payments of

**£12.48**

Total Price £599

Save £300

Bayfield painted extending oak table with 4 chairs  
Now £599 | Was £899

# Cousins

a true family business

Open 7 days a week

Late Nights: Tuesday & Thursday until 8pm

Birmingham

Warwick Road,  
Tyseley. B11 2EW.

T: 0121 765 3300

Dudley

Hall Street  
DY2 8NW.

T: 01384 451500

Manchester

A57, Regent Rd,  
Salford. M5 4EA.

T: 0161 875 4070

PRICE  
PROMISE

Our promise to you,  
we won't be beaten  
on price! \*

[www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk](http://www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk)

**0% APR**  
REPRESENTATIVE

5 years interest free credit, pay nothing for the first year from date of order, available on all total orders over £200. For example: 3 seater sofa £480. Defer payments for 12 months then take 48 monthly payments of £10. Subject to status. Written details upon request. Offer not available on in-store concessions, clearance and web specials. See website for price promise details.



Pay Nothing for a year, No Deposit, then 48 monthly payments of

**£9.35**

Total Price £449

Save £150

Krystal double nickel bedstead  
Now £449 | Was £599

# 5 Years Interest free Pay nothing for a year,

then spread the cost over 48 months

## THIS SATURDAY & SUNDAY ONLY

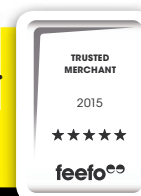
That's right! **This Saturday and Sunday** at Cousins you can choose from their magnificent range of brand-name furniture, carpets, beds and homewares then spread the cost **interest free over 48 months without paying a single penny for the first year!**

It's true! Buy any item at Cousins this weekend and **you won't even need a deposit.**

Come and browse at your leisure around 2 spacious floors of furniture, displayed in inspirational room settings.

Read what our customers say...

96% independently review  
our products as good/excellent





**Walker injured in remote location**

A WALKER suffered an ankle injury after falling in a wood near Halesowen and during the incident an air ambulance was scrambled.

The man, in his 40s, suffered the injury on Monday afternoon at Frankley Green, Hunnington.

Despite the pain, he was able to call 999 and direct ambulance staff to his location. The Midlands Air Ambulance from Strensham attended the scene, along with a land ambulance and paramedics. A spokeswoman said: "Ambulance staff went on foot across a field and through several gates into the woods and found the man propped up against a stile. The man was conveyed by land ambulance to Queen Elizabeth Hospital."

**Nearly new sale by child charity**

PARENTS can get bargains at a nearly new sale of baby and children's clothes in Quarry Bank next Saturday.

It has been organised by the NCT Stourbridge and Halesowen branch. Visitors to the sale could save around 70 per cent on what items cost bought new.

As well as clothes, there will be toys and equipment at the event at Thorns Leisure Centre on May 16, from 11am to 1pm, with early entry at 10.30am for NCT members.

Charlotte Medlicott from NCT Stourbridge and Halesowen, said: "Whether you're buying, selling or both you can be sure you're helping to support other parents in the area."

# Hundreds facing jobs axe at hospital trust to save £16m

**MORE than 200 jobs face are at risk at Sandwell's hospital trust during the next 12 months, as part of plans to slash more than £16 million from the wages bill.**

It's the next phase of wider plans by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals Trust to cut around 1,400 posts over five years.

Bosses are looking to scrap 205 'whole time equivalent' positions by March 2016 but say around 260 workers are expected to be affected by the move.

A consultation is under way and it's hoped that a 'significant' number of the posts can be cut by redeploying staff or not recruiting for vacant roles.

The trust, which runs Sandwell Hospital and City Hospital, has already redeployed 150 workers to other roles since first announcing its plans last year.

Despite looking at reducing its pay bill, the hospital trust has vowed to continue investing in more A&E consultants and nurses.

A report by chief executive Toby Lewis, which went before directors of the trust's board, says: "A statutory consultation process will commence for affected staff groups. Circa 260 staff will be affected by the changes proposed. A significant amount of posts will be released through the disestablishment of vacant posts and re-deployment."

The plans will reduce the trust's pay bill by £16.1m.

By Heather Large

It comes after NHS inspectors declared that Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust require improvement.

A&E, medical care, surgery and children and young people's services required improvement, the Care Quality Commission report found.

Critical care and end of life care were rated as 'good', but outpatient services were rated as 'inadequate'.

Inspectors said the trust's bid to boost safety was 'potentially at cross purposes' with the trust's proposals to cut back on jobs.

But Mr Lewis said 150 staff members were redeployed to other job roles rather than losing those individuals. Bosses are recruiting more staff including A&E consultants and nurses.

Last month it was revealed the hospital trust had spent more than £12million on agency workers in just a year to cover the shortage.

## First World War hero is remembered



Chairman Peter Carpenter, left, with Warren McCabe-Smith, of Midland Film and Art, and the picture of Joseph Tranter

THE memory of the first soldier from Cradley to be killed during the First World War has been preserved after a group presented a framed photograph of him to a sports club.

The Midland Film and Art group provided Cradley Sports and Social Club with the photo of Joseph Tranter, a founding member of the former Liberal Club in Colley Lane, Cradley.

Mr Tranter was one of the first men from the Black Country to die during the war. A reservist with the South Wales Borderers, he was among the

first to be called up when war broke out with Germany.

Within the first weeks, he died during a skirmish on September 26, 1914, at Vendresse, France. The whereabouts of his grave is unknown.

**Honour**

In his honour a photograph of the soldier, in an oak frame with the inscription 'Died for King and Country' has pride of place in the club.

But, following a leak, the memorial was severely water damaged. Midland

Film and Art stepped in with an offer to recreate the photograph in a new frame as part of the Cradley Memorials Heritage Project, which has received Heritage Lottery funding.

The club is to install the memorial within the entrance of its building.

Chairman Peter Carpenter said: "Thanks to heritage lottery funding and local film and art enthusiasts, who were determined to preserve our history, we have regained a cherished memory of a founder member to inspire future generations."

## I don't believe it! Wilson to join Lenny

THE cast of Lenny Henry's new TV series Danny and The Human Zoo – a fictionalised account of his life as a talented teenager in 1970s Dudley – has been announced.

Among the actors lined up for the BBC One drama, which is based on the actor and comedian's early days including a spell working at Dudley Zoo, is One Foot in the Grave actor Richard Wilson.

Kascion Franklin will play Danny with Lenny playing his father Samson and Cecilia Noble his mother Myrtle. Arthur Darvill, of Doctor Who and Broadchurch fame, will play Danny's manager Jonesy while Wilson will play promoter James Broughton.

Rehearsals for the show, which will be shot in and around Dudley, got under way this week.

Lenny, who was born near Dudley's Buffery Park, said: "I can't believe that we're finally shooting my screenplay Danny and The Human Zoo."

"This is a fantasy memoir of the first two years of my career; my beginnings, working at the zoo, working men's clubs and all that stuff that happened to me in the mid 1970s – but crammed into 90 minutes."

He added: "The script took about three years with the help of Nicola Shindler and Caroline Hollick at RED Productions – and now we're going to make it in Dudley."

**ADVERTISEMENT**

## New Boiler & Radiators, Pipework - Fitted

**Now Only £2850** T/C apply!

**INCLUDES 7 YEAR WARRANTY.**

ideal

Boilers  
...now with  
7 & 10 year  
guarantee

**BOILERS**  
from  
**£550**

**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

All boilers available from **WORCESTER** + Budget Ranges  
Bosch Group

**Boiler Services from £40**

**ECOPIPE**  
Plumbing & Heating Solutions

safe  
REGISTER



**CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE, NO JOB TOO SMALL**

**01299 827070 | 07545 631731**



**www.ecopipeheating.co.uk ecopipe@live.co.uk**

**ALL AREAS COVERED**

**EcoPipe Plumbing & Heating Solutions** is a provider of Plumbing, Heating, Gas and Boiler services to domestic and commercial markets.

**We employ a team of highly professional diagnostic & installation engineers.**



All our works are guaranteed and are of the highest quality. All our engineers are registered with the Gas Safe Register. The services we provide are guaranteed and covered by our full public liability insurance policy. EcoPipe Plumbing & Heating Solutions

concentrates on providing quality works that have made us the only pick of many residential and commercial clients in and around Midlands.

We are helping our Clients save money by planning, preparing and installing only the best heating systems!



## Talk on monarch found in car park

KING Richard III will be in the spotlight during Stourbridge Historical Society's next meeting.

Historian Max Keen will be giving a talk about the monarch's life and the discovery of his body buried under a Leicester car park in September 2012.

It will take place in the Wollaston Room at Stourbridge Town Hall on May 21 at 7.30pm.

David Hickman, from the society, said: "Max has been to speak at Stourbridge Historical Society on a number of occasions before. His talks are brought to life with illustrations, and a range of material relevant to the story. In order to make the tale more vivid Max dresses up as the person he is describing. There is much humour and plenty to hold the audience's attention."

For more details visit [www.stourbridgehistoricalsociety.com](http://www.stourbridgehistoricalsociety.com)

# Borough is better than some but most homes 'unaffordable'

**JUST two out of every 10 homes on sale in the West Midlands is affordable for the average first time buying family, according to housing charity Shelter.**

Dudley was the most affordable district in the Black Country, but more than six out of 10 homes were still out of reach for first time buyers.

Shelter claims that overall nearly 80 per cent of properties on the market aren't affordable for families looking to buy their first home.

The housing charity analysed asking prices for thousands of properties for sale throughout the region, and compared them with the mortgage that an average family buying their first home could afford.

That revealed only 22 per cent of home for sale are affordable for families that need at least two bedrooms, and only eight per cent – less than one in 10 – are affordable for larger families looking for homes with three bedrooms or more.

In South Staffordshire there were just 23 – less than seven per cent of homes on sale in the district were considered affordable.

In Kidderminster, Cannock and Sandwell just two in 10 homes were affordable, while in Wolverhampton and Walsall the situation was slightly better with nearly three in 10 homes affordable. In hotspots like Warwick there were just five affordable properties.

The charity says families face continued instability and high housing costs unless there is urgent action to build more homes.

Campbell Robb, chief executive of Shelter, said: "Nearly 80 per cent of homes on the market are off limits for a typical family in the West Midlands and this is nothing short of a scandal."



Shelter's Campbell Robb

## 31-mile charity trek for hospice

WALKERS are being urged to lace up their boots to raise money for a Midland hospice next month.

An event organised by St Richard's Hospice offers people the chance to walk the whole of the Worcestershire Way in a day.

The 31-mile challenge will be held on Friday, June 19, marking the 10th anniversary of the popular event.

The walk begins at 6am in Bewdley and walkers will stride out across wonderful Worcestershire countryside before a tough finish on the slopes of the Malvern Hills.

Alison Parkes, senior fundraiser, said: "The atmosphere is likely to be amazing."

For more information, contact Alison by email at [aparkes@strichards.org.uk](mailto:aparkes@strichards.org.uk) or call 01905 763963.

## Grandson publishes soldier's memoir



David Galley with the book from his grandfather's writings

A MAN'S determination to find out more about his grandfather's military service led to the surprise discovery of an exercise book containing a hand-written memoir of war-time experiences.

David Galley, of Brierley Hill, has now produced a book based on the document penned by Edward Galley about life as a soldier in the Boer War and First World War.

Mr Galley, aged 68, who has recently become president of the Black Country Society, said he knew his grandfather had served in Second Worcestershire Regiment.

"I also knew he had won a medal but wasn't aware of the circumstances behind it and wanted to find out more," he said. "I contacted the regiment archive and but was told the details in regards the citation had been lost when records were destroyed during the Second World War. I thought that was the end of it."

But his project unexpectedly got back on track when an aunt presented him with the handwritten memoir. The book, priced £5, is on sale at Ashwood Nurseries, Red House Cone and from [www.blackcountryociety.co.uk](http://www.blackcountryociety.co.uk).

## Play week target is more than 5,000

DUDLEY Council is looking to top the 5,000 people who attended its summer play week last year with events in five borough parks.

Dudley Play Week – being held from August 3 to 7 – there will be free activities run from noon to 4pm in the following borough parks: Huntingtree Park, Halesowen, August 3; Silver Jubilee Park, Coseley, August 4; Wollescote Park, August 5; Priory Park, Dudley, August 6 and The Dell and Fens Pool, Brierley Hill, August 7.

Activities for children will include a climbing wall, arts and crafts, face painting and an animal area.

Organisations interested in getting involved are being invited to planning meetings that are being held on June 19 and July 16 at Saltwells Education Centre, Netherton, from 10am to noon.

They can also contact Keith Rogers on (01384) 813828.

### WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH

# Gastek Solutions

**24/7 Emergency Call Out**

**FINANCE NOW AVAILABLE, NEW BOILERS FITTED...PAY MONTHLY!**

**WORCESTER accredited installer**

**NEW GASTEK HOME SAFE PLAN**

- Free Annual Boiler service
- All Parts And Labour Included
- Taps and Toilets
- Internal & External Drains
- Unlimited Call Outs
- Gas & Water Supply Pipes

**PLUS MOOR !**

**ALL FROM JUST £9.99 PER MONTH**  
t/c apply

**CALL TODAY AND SPEAK TO THE TEAM 01384 560 856**

**CANT AFFORD A TOP OF THE RANGE "A" RATED BOILER? WELL NOW YOU CAN ...**

**START SAVING MONEY ON YOUR GAS BILL NOW!!**  
**FITTED FROM JUST £18 PERMONTH !**  
T&C apply ...call our team today..

**NEW, MOBILE HOME GAS APPLIANCES SERVICED AND REPAIRED**

**NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN**  
**Unit B15 Anchor Business Park, Dudley DY2 9AF**  
**Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday**  
**Tel: 01384 560856**  
**info@Gasteksolutions.co.uk**  
**www.gasteksolutions.co.uk**

**ALL MAJOR CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED**

(All prices are plus VAT)

**WORCESTER Bosch Group Accredited Installer**

**DOMESTIC INSTALLER**

### WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH





Privately-owned Sunbeams leaving the Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre



AJS testers roaring out of the Graiseley factory (the Waitrose site) and off down the Penn Road



The triumphant AJS team from the 1921 Isle of Man TT Races



Workers pour out of Sunbeamland, where Sunbeam bikes were made

# When town roared to victory at the Isle of Man races

THEY were glorious times for Wolverhampton, when the then town would send off several factory teams to the TT races on the Isle of Man, fully expecting that one or more would come back winners.

The Tourist Trophy Races were then the pinnacle of motorbike racing. In the Blakenhall area especially, workers would be anxious to hear news of how 'their' boys had got on, and whether they would hold bragging rights for the next year.

The main contenders were usually Sunbeam and AJS, competing for the senior and junior TTs, with several wins each during the 20s and 30s.

However, the small firm of HRD was to break the mould for a short while, with wins in 1925 and 1927, and Diamond, from Sedgley Street often competed in the lightweight TT, with a best finish of seventh, and even the tiny

## MEMORY LANE

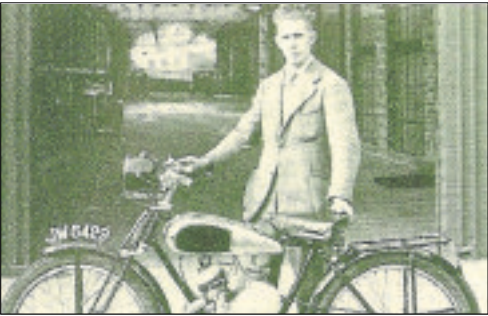
By Alec Brew

firm of HB, in Walsall Street, raced in 1923. Extraordinarily, these were not the only motor-bike manufacturers in Wolverhampton.

Clyno was a major name, but never fielded a racing team, and later turned to building cars. Villiers was one of the biggest names in the industry, but mostly as an engine supplier. Only very late in the day did the company build some of the last Norton Commando motorcycles, finishing in 1975.

Several other small manufacturers sprang up over the years, usually not lasting, long like Jukes on the Bilston Road, Olympic in Granville Street, Orbit in Sedgley Street and Wearwell in Great Brickkiln Street.

Now all of these marques are gone, and a town which was almost the centre of the British motorbike industry does not even have on display a single example of those glorious days.



HS 'Bert' Kershaw with the first Villiers engine-gear unit in 1936



A Clyno military motorcycle combination used in the First World

## Express & Star Shop

### GARDEN KNEELER



JUST  
£14.99  
WAS £44.99  
SAVE £30

Take the strain out of gardening with this comfy garden kneeler. Features a robust steel tubing frame with a raised, soft kneeling platform of polypropylene foam, and arms at just the right height to assist you in getting back up without causing back strain.

For those jobs where you need a little extra height, just turn the kneeler over for a comfy seat or handy step. Ideal for both garden and DIY jobs, the garden kneeler folds flat for easy storage.

Approximate width 58.5cm (23ins).

### SOLAR CHERUB

Beautiful by day, this pair of classically designed cherubs will also create a heavenly light effect in your garden at night for free. Simply place the solar panel facing the sun during daylight hours to charge, and at night the three fountain basins will light up in sequence (1,2,3) to imitate the flow of cascading water.

Provides up to 6-8 hours of light on a single charge and is made from high quality marble effect poly-resin that will not chip or fade. Measures 40 x 16 x 18cm (16 x 6.4 x 7.2ins). Powered by 1 x AA battery (included).



JUST  
£24.99  
WAS £49.99  
SAVE £25

### HALF PRICE TRIMMING SHEARS



JUST  
£29.99  
WAS £59.99  
SAVE £30

Also available  
grass edge  
extension  
handle

No more  
stooping  
or bending  
with the  
additional  
extendable  
handle...  
Just £9.99

These incredibly lightweight, battery-powered trimming shears provide complete cordless freedom in the garden. They are ergonomically designed and weigh just 0.8 kg. Easy to use, they are great for trimming awkward edges around trees, walls and garden fences, and shape lawn edges with ease. A safety switch prevents accidental start up, and the blades are easy to change - no tools needed.

To order call 0871 911 7011\* Quote 50241  
Online at EXPRESSANDSTARSHOP.CO.UK

Lines open 8am-8pm 7 days a week \*Calls cost 10 pence per minute from a standard BT landline. Mobile & other providers' charges may vary.

Our 'was' pricing refers to the original selling prices offered on our website www.cjoffers.co.uk, and in our retail store between 26th January 2015 and 26th April 2015. Allow 7 working days for delivery. If not happy for any reason we will accept return of faulty/unworn goods in sealed original packaging for full refund or replacement within 14 days (shoes and clothing within 30 days). These goods are sold and supplied by BVG-AirFlo Ltd, with whom you contract when you accept this offer. A SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON DELIVERY.

RETURN TO: EXPRESS & STAR (50241), PO BOX 87, BRECON, LD3 3BE

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (for queries only) \_\_\_\_\_  
I enclose my cheque/PO made payable to BVG-AIRFLO LTD for £ \_\_\_\_\_ Or please debit my card £ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro Issue No. \_\_\_\_\_  
My card number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
Start date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND ME	CODE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Garden Kneeler	D7428		£14.99	
Solar Cherub	D7345		£24.99	
Trimming Shears	D2939		£29.99	
Extension Handle	D2940		£9.99	
			Please add £3.95 P&P	£3.95
			TOTAL	

\*Midland News Association Ltd and other MNA companies or selected third parties may contact you with details of goods and services you may be interested in. By placing this order you give consent to Midland News Association Limited or selected third parties doing so, unless you have indicated your objection by ticking this box ☐ if you do not want to hear from Midland News Association Ltd.





Right back to the start – William Henry Fellows, founder of the company, seen on the favoured transport of the time



A sign of the times – Fellows' history stretches back nearly 140 years

# A treasure trove of history

**ESTABLISHED** in 1876, Fellows & Sons Ltd is one of the oldest and most respected firms of auctioneers and valuers in the UK, with their head office and saleroom based in Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter.

The company's origin can be traced back to the collapse of an order for bicycles. When William Henry Fellows was left with the unwanted order he decided to sell the bicycles by auction along with his wife Louisa, who was a pawnbroker and used auctions to sell uncollected pledges.

It was in the 1920s that the auction house grew when William's son, Francis, sold items on behalf of refugees escaping the ravages of the Russian Revolution.

In the 1930s people escaping Nazi persecution were able to smuggle out some of their wealth and sell it during sales at

## MEMORY LANE

By Graeme Andrew

Fellows. Auctions during this period also included lost property from the Royal Mail. The move to its current location at Augusta House in the Jewellery Quarter took place in 1990.

By this time, Fellows had built up a reputation specialising in jewellery auctions and also set up a fine art and furniture department. Since the 1990s, the company has expanded from five to over 75 staff, holding more than 100 sales a year.

### Tremendous

A recent addition to the Fellows' repertoire is the specialist 'watch sale', which launched earlier this year and continues to be a tremendous success for both watch vendors and buyers alike who visit the monthly sale.

Whilst still holding over 50 Jewellery

sales a year, which range from fortnightly jewellery sales to the glittering monthly antique and modern jewellery auctions, a series of niche sales in markets such as coins, vintage jewellery, and silver still take place.

The continuing change in inventory at Fellows means that the auction house is continuously surrounded by a hub of excitement amongst those who are lovers of antiques, watches and jewellery throughout the year.

Anyone interested can visit the website to see the upcoming auction calendar, by logging onto [www.fellows.co.uk](http://www.fellows.co.uk).

As well as in the second city, the auctioneers have an office in Mayfair to better serve clients based in London and the surrounding area.

Upcoming events at Fellows include – Jewellery & Watches: Today, Thursday May 7; Antique & Modern Jewellery: Thursday May 14; Watches & Watch Parts: Monday May 18; Jewellery & Watches: Thursday May 21; The Watch Sale: Tuesday May 26.



Gem of a company – Treasures are for sale at the firm situated in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter

## Fellows

Established 1876

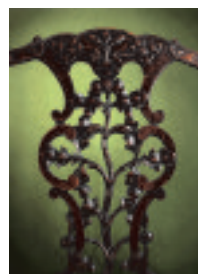
Auctioneers & Valuers  
Antiques | Jewellery | Watches

### Inviting entries to our upcoming auctions

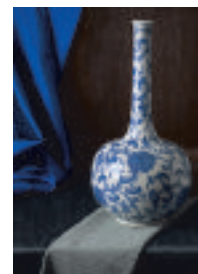
Visit our saleroom in Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter every **Wednesday between 10am - 4pm** for **free valuations** of your unwanted antiques, coins, jewellery and watches.

If you're happy with the estimates given, you can consign your items to our next appropriate auction.

Alternatively for house clearances, please phone **0121 212 2131** to arrange for a specialist to meet you.



Sold for £1,800



Sold for £2,100



Sold for £1,800

### Upcoming auctions

Thursday 14th May - Antique & Modern Jewellery  
Thursday 21st May - Jewellery  
Tuesday 26th May - The Watch Sale  
Monday 8th June - Vintage Jewellery & Accessories  
Thursday 11th June - Jewellery  
Thursday 18th June - Antique & Modern Jewellery

Visit [www.fellows.co.uk](http://www.fellows.co.uk) to view full catalogues for our weekly auctions

Fellows Auctioneers  
[www.fellows.co.uk](http://www.fellows.co.uk)

Jewellery Quarter Saleroom | 0121 212 2131 | 19 Augusta Street, Birmingham, B18 6JA  
Mayfair Office | 020 712 4198 | 2nd Floor, 3 Queen Street, London, W1J 5PA

     
fellowsauctions



# star extra TRAVEL

For brochures please call the Promotions Team on (01902) 319999  
(Mon to Fri, 9am to 5pm) or go to [expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)

## Lake Como, St Moritz and the Bernina Express

Eight days various departure dates



**PRICE FROM £819**

Explore one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, plus some stunning sights of northern Italy and Switzerland.

The delights of Lake Como are many and varied. One of the highlights will be a private boat trip and tour of the beautiful 18th century Villa del Balbianello, one of the finest villas surrounding the lake. This is followed by a visit to the exclusive resort of Bellagio, often described as the most beautiful town in Italy.

Enjoy a contrasting day of spectacular scenery and Swiss engineering. Firstly ascend to Tirano to board the Bernina Express, one of the slowest express trains in the world, travelling to the summit at Ospizio Bernina before descending to the chic resort of St Moritz, where there is time for a spot of window shopping or to explore at leisure.

A guided tour of the old town is included at Bergamo in northern Italy. Centred around the Piazza Vecchia, it's main square is a wonderful collection of medieval and Renaissance buildings and the cobbled streets are lined with a wealth of traditional shops.

Nearby Lake Maggiore's most attractive lakeside town Stresa is visited. Take a stroll along its impressive palm-lined promenade and enjoy the lovely views across the lake to the Borromean islands.

The town of Lugano in Switzerland is also a delight to explore. It's centred around the cafe-lined main square – ideal for people watching. Alternatively stroll around the twisting lanes of the old town or network of shops.

### INFO

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Single journey on the Bernina Express
- Lake cruise to Bellagio
- Guided tour of Bergamo
- Entrance and guided tour of Villa del Balbianello
- Visits to Lake Maggiore, St Moritz and Lugano
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

**Pick of the week**

## Yorkshire Cruise and Steam

Three days departing August 14



**PRICE FROM £169**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Journey on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway
- Cruise on the Leeds Liverpool Canal
- Coach tour of the Yorkshire Dales
- Visits to Holmfirth, Skipton, Grassington and Haworth
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Isle of Wight and Osborne House

Four days departing August 28



**PRICE FROM £269**

- Return coach travel and ferry crossings
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Osborne House
- Visits to Ryde, Godshill, Yarmouth and The Needles Park at Alum Bay
- Tour and wine tasting at the Rosemary Vineyard
- Entrance to Ventnor Botanic Gardens and a cream tea
- Free time in Cowes
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Norfolk Gardens and The Lavender Harvest

Three days departing July 3



**PRICE FROM £219**

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Norfolk Lavender Caley Mill grounds tour followed by a cream tea and lavender scones
- Visit to the Lavender Oil Distillery
- Entrance to Sandringham House and Gardens
- Entrance to Bressingham Gardens
- Visit to Cambridge
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Elvis Exhibition at The O2 London

Two days departing August 22



**PRICE FROM £115**

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to the Elvis exhibition at the O2
- Free time in central London
- Visit to Greenwich
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Saturday Night Theatre by rail

Two days departures most weekends



**PRICE FROM £159.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return standard class rail travel to London (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Ticket for the Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show  
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

## London Summer Days

Five days departing August 17



**PRICE FROM £399.<sup>95</sup>**

- Return coach travel
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation at the four-star Tower Guoman hotel
- Excursion to Windsor
- Optional excursion to Hampton Court Palace and Richmond
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

## Jersey

Four to eight days  
Departures June to December



**PRICE FROM £295**

- Return flights
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Mayfair or Metropole hotel in St Helier
- Option to upgrade to half-board for a supplement
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

## Buckingham Palace

Day trip departing August 9 and Sept 13



**PRICE FROM £59**

- Return coach travel
- Entrance to Buckingham Palace

Two and four-day trips to Buckingham Palace are also available

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

## Normandy by Eurostar

Five days various departure dates



**PRICE FROM £499**

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour of Rouen
- Visits to the Bayeux Tapestry, Benedictine Palace and the port of Honfleur
- Visit to Arromanches and the second World War D-Day beaches
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally  
Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744)

## Sicily

Eight days various departure dates



**PRICE FROM £939**

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation in four-star hotels
- Guided tours of Valley of the Temples, Piazza Armerina and Monreale's medieval cathedral
- Visits to Palermo, Taormina, Mount Etna and Siracusa
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

## Iceland Reykjavík and the Northern Lights

Four days various departure dates  
November 2015 to March 2016



**PRICE FROM £549**

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation in a choice of hotels
- City tour of Reykjavik
- Search for the Northern Lights tour\*
- Optional excursions offered
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

\*Please note the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed  
Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)





# fast the ticket

## Take it away

Take That preview  
– Page 23



**Thea Gilmore**

See Page 23

**NATIVE  
MONSTER**  
Entertainment Unleashed

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

## SUMMER FRIDAYS

### EXCITING DISHES

Extra: **Seafood,**  
**Caribbean**  
New: **Sushi**  
Specials: **Paella, Steak**

### DRINKS OFFERS

**Summer Cocktails**

**Beer Basket**  
(four bottles £10!)



An ever-changing variety  
of dishes from across the  
world. All welcome!

**FRIDAYS**  
12-2.30pm £6.95/£4.95\*  
5-11pm £14.95/£6.95\*

Price promise  
✓ Buffet choice inc. Dessert  
Under 4's free!/\*5-9 yr olds  
• Drinks extra  
Check national calendar events

**Book now!**  
info@redleafworldbuffet.co.uk

**0121 553 6948**

28-32 High Street  
West Bromwich B70 6JT

redleafworldbuffet.co.uk



## GREAT VALUE COACH HOLIDAYS

- Return coach travel from throughout the West Midlands
- Dinner, bed & breakfast and entertainment at most hotels
- Free excursion programme

**LATE DEAL!**  
**LIVERPOOL**  
 Beatles Tour, Cavern Club & Mersey Cruise  
 WAS £199.95  
**now £159.95**  
 Half board  
 Adelphi Hotel  
 MON 18 MAY  
 New bookings only. No further discounts apply

**FOLKESTONE & OSTEND**  
 4 DAYS 22, 29 May, 12, 26 Jun, 17 Jul  
 5 DAYS 18, 25 May, 8, 22, 29 Jun  
 8 DAYS 22 May, 26 Jun, 17 Jul  
 from **£139.95**

**EASTBOURNE**  
 Brighton & Sussex Coast  
 4 DAYS 22 May, 26 Jun, 17, 31 Jul  
 5 DAYS 18, 25 May, 8, 22 Jun, 6, 20, 27 Jul  
 7 DAYS 14, 28 Jun, 12, 26 Jul, 9, 23 Aug, 6 Sep  
 from **£129.95**

**CORONATION STREET & Liverpool**  
 16 May, 13 Jun, 11, 25 Jul, 8, 22 Aug, 19 Sep  
 2 DAYS  
 from **£79.95**  
 ★ ADMISSION INCLUDED ★

**CUMBRAE ISLAND**  
 Ayrshire Coast & Isle of Bute Circular  
 5 DAYS  
 from **£179.95**  
 18, 25 May, 15, 22, 29 Jun, 13, 20, 27 Jul, 3 Aug

**LOOE & POLPERRO**  
 Devon Steam, Cruise & Cream Tea  
 5 DAYS  
 from **£199.95**  
 18, 25 May, 15, 22 Jun, 13, 20, 27 Jul, 10, 17 Aug

**PONTINS SAND BAY & Bath (Adults only)**  
 4 DAYS 22 May, 19, 26 Jun, 31 Jul, 14, 28 Aug  
 5 DAYS 18, 25 May, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jun  
 from **£119.95**

**TORQUAY & Exeter**  
 4 DAYS 22 May, 19, 26 Jun, 17 Jul  
 5 DAYS 18, 25 May, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jun  
 from **£139.95**

**WHAT'S ON** from **£55**  
 • Railway Children  
 • Blackpool Lights • **Edinburgh Tattoo** • Lord of the Dance  
 • Fairford Air Tattoo • Sinatra • **Chelsea Flower Show**  
 • Blenheim Palace Flower Festival • **Tea at Alnwick Castle**  
 • Matlock Illuminations • **Winchester Flower Festival**  
 • Murder Mystery Weekends • **Sing-a-long Frozen**  
 • Peak District Fair • **Ken Dodd** • **Poldark Tour**  
 plus many more... Visit [travelstyletours.co.uk](http://travelstyletours.co.uk)

**LAUREL & HARDY MUSEUM Cruise & Steam**  
 13 Jun, 25 Jul, 22 Aug, 19 Sep, 24 Oct  
 2 DAYS  
 from **£79.95**

**LLANDUDNO** Elvis Party Weekends!  
 15 May, 26 Jun, 10 Jul, 7, 21 Aug, 18 Sep, 16 Oct  
 3 DAYS  
 from **£89.95**

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE & Houses of Parliament**  
 1, 15, 29 Aug, 5, 12, 26 Sep  
 2 DAYS  
 from **£99.95**

**LEGOLAND 2 day ticket! B&B**  
 30 May, 27 Jun, 25 Jul, 22 Aug, 19 Sep, 31 Oct  
 2 DAYS  
 from **£99.95**

**Also available**

<b>MYSTERY</b> We choose - you save! 16, 23, 30 May 2 DAYS <b>£49.95</b>	<b>BATH &amp; STONEHENGE</b> 16 May, 13 Jul 2 DAYS <b>£79.95</b>	<b>LONDON FREEDOM WEEKEND</b> 16 May, 6 Jun 2 DAYS <b>£79.95</b>	<b>PHANTOM LONDON</b> 18 Jul, 26 Sep 2 DAYS <b>£139.95</b>
<b>ELVIS AT THE O2</b> 6 Jun, 18 Jul 2 DAYS <b>£99.95</b>	<b>BUCKINGHAM PALACE &amp; PARLIAMENT</b> 1, 29 Aug 2 DAYS <b>£99.95</b>	<b>CHESTER &amp; LIVERPOOL</b> 16 May, 13 Jun 2 DAYS <b>£59.95</b>	<b>WARNER STUDIOS</b> 20 Jun, 25 Jul 2 DAYS <b>£99.95</b>
<b>DISNEYLAND PARIS</b> 31 May, 23 Aug 4 DAYS <b>£299.95</b>	<b>AUSTRIAN TYROL</b> 27 Jun, 25 Jul 9 DAYS <b>£499.95</b>	<b>LAKE GARDA</b> 23 May, 27 Jun 9 DAYS <b>£499.95</b>	<b>BRIGHTON</b> 28 Jun, 26 Jul 2 DAYS <b>£59.95</b>

**Travelstyle**  
 miles more smiles  
 Call for brochure  
**0844 682 0086**  
[travelstyletours.co.uk](http://travelstyletours.co.uk)

## Dames Of Darkness



Sat, Sun from 2pm  
 Robin 2, Bilston

The fifth edition of 'The Dames of Darkness Festival' takes place over Saturday and Sunday with new and established bands from the UK, Europe and The United States. Visit [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk)

## Chris de Burgh



Wednesday, 7.30pm  
 Symphony Hall, B'ham

Be among the first to hear live renditions of Chris de Burgh's 20th studio album 'The Hands of Man' that captures his lyrical style but with a nod to 21st century techniques. Visit [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

## Andy Parsons



Saturday, 8pm  
 Gatehouse, Stafford

Andy's fifth show 'Live and Unleashed - But Naturally Cautious' sees the star of BBC2's 'Mock The Week' and 'Live At The Apollo' hitting the road again delivering more sharp comedy. [www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk](http://www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk)

## Beyond The Barricades 2015



Saturday, 7.30pm  
 Grand Theatre, W'ton

Recreating original musical hit songs with amazing authenticity, this cast of past principal performers from Les Miserables present a blockbusting two-hour show. Visit [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)

## ROCK & POP

**Take That**  
 Mon, Tue, Thu at 7.30pm,  
 £61.20 - £94.20  
 Genting Arena, Birmingham,  
 B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

**Dames Of Darkness Festival 5**  
 Sat, Sun at 2pm - 1am,  
 £25 - £45  
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
 Call 01902 401211

**Twenty One Pilots**  
 Wed at 7pm,  
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
 Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
 Call 0844 870 0000

**Ultimate Genesis**  
 Sat at 6.30pm, £14.62  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**The Smiths Indeed**  
 Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £15  
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
 Call 01902 401211

**Gryphon**  
 Tue at 7.30pm, £15 - £16  
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
 Call 01902 401211

**Terry Reid**  
 Wed at 7.30pm, £15 - £16  
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
 Call 01902 401211

**UK Subs**  
 Thu at 7.30pm, £12 - £14  
 The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
 Call 01902 401211

**Chris de Burgh**  
 Wed at 7.30pm, £40 - £60  
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
 B1 2EA.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**Hoobastank plus POD and Alien Ant Farm**  
 Fri at 7pm, £24.21  
 The Wulfrun,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.  
 Call 01902 552106

**Fearless Vampire Killers**  
 Sun at 7pm, £10.12  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Alabama Shakes**  
 Wed at 7pm, £21.93  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Pretty Vicious**  
 Sun at 7.30pm, £6.00 Adv  
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
 Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
 Call 0844 870 0000

**Twin Atlantic**  
 Fri at 6pm, £18.56  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Belle and Sebastian**  
 Sun at 7.45pm, £25  
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**The Maccabees**  
 Mon at 7pm, £23.00 Adv  
 The Institute, Digbeth,  
 Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
 Call 0121 643 0428

**Into The Shadows**  
 Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £16  
 Prince Of Wales Centre, Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
 Call 01543 578762

**ABBA - Swede Dreamz**  
 Sat at 8pm, £8  
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
 DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

**UB40 - Labour of Love**  
 Tue at 8pm, £8  
 The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
 DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

**Midge Ure and India Electric Co**  
 Wed at 7.30pm,  
 £17.75 - £18.75  
 Palace Theatre, Redditch,  
 B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**The Vamps**  
 Fri at 7pm, £33.74 - £37.10  
 Genting Arena, Birmingham,  
 B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

**Dr Hook**  
 Tue at 7pm, £27.50 - £29.50  
 The Wulfrun,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.  
 Call 01902 552106

**Voca People**  
 Tue at 7.30pm, £20 - £21  
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
 ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

## FOLK & ACOUSTIC

**Merrymouth**  
 Sat at 8pm, £14 - £16  
 mac birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, B12 9QH.  
 Call 0121 446 3232

**Irish Session**  
 Wed at 8pm, Free  
 Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston,  
 Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.  
 Call 01384 374410

**Nizlopi**  
 Tue at 7pm, £15  
 The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
 B5 4TD.  
 Call 0871 472 0400

**Brewwood Acoustic Club - Bill Caddick**  
 Thu at 8pm, £6  
 Brewwood Cricket Club,  
 ST19 9HX.  
 Call 01902 850422

**Thea Gilmore with Special Guests**  
 Sat at 8pm, £19.50 - £24.50  
 Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**John Tams & Barry Coope**  
 Mon at 7.30pm, £13  
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
 ST16 2LT.  
 Call 01785 254653

**Country Music Nights**  
 Sun at 8.15pm,  
 Swan With Two Necks,  
 Longdon, WS15 4PN.  
 Call 01543 491570

## RNB & SOUL

**Boyz II Men**  
 Tue at 7pm, £34.87  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Clare Maguire**  
 Fri at 8pm, £7  
 The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
 B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

## JAZZ & BLUES

**Paul Lamb & The King Snakes**  
 Sat at 8pm, £7.50 - £15  
 Lichfield Guildhall, WS13 6LU.  
 Call 01543 262223

**Duets for Django**  
 Fri at 7.30pm, £14  
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
 Call 01543 412121

**ReedBass**  
 Fri at 5pm, Free  
 Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
 B1 2EA.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**The Harp Live Jazz (May)**  
 Sun at 12.30pm, Tue at 8.30pm,  
 Free

**The Harp Hotel, Albrighton,**  
 Wolverhampton, WV7 3JF.  
 Call 01902 374381

## THE RESCUE BLUES

**The Rescue Blues**  
 Fri at 7pm, £5.50  
 The Slade Rooms,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.  
 Call 01902 552106

## CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

**Beyond the Barricades 2015**  
 Sat at 7.30pm, £18.50  
 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
 WV1 1DE.  
 Call 01902 573320

**A Night at the Oscars**  
 Wed, Thu at 7.30pm,  
 £10 - £14  
 Prince Of Wales Centre,  
 Cannock, WS11 1DE.  
 Call 01543 578762

**NewGrass Cutters**  
 Fri at 8pm, £15  
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
 ST16 2LT.  
 Call 01785 254653

**Julian Lloyd Webber Presents**  
 Tue at 7.30pm, £22.50  
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.  
 Call 01527 577330

**The Ukulele Orchestra**  
 Sun at 3pm, £19.50  
 Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**Lunchtime Organ Concert**  
 Mon at 1pm, £6  
 Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**Dvorák's Cello Concerto**  
 Wed at 2.30pm,  
 £6.50 - £21.50  
 Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

**Hélène Grimaud in Recital**  
 Thu at 7.30pm, £9.50 - £35  
 Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.  
 Call 0121 780 3333

## THEATRE

**Dirty Dancing**  
 Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu  
 at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, Sat at  
 2.30pm, £20 - £55  
 Birmingham Hippodrome,  
 B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

**Sing-a-Long-a Frozen**  
 Sat at 11.30am, 3pm,  
 Palace Theatre, Redditch,  
 B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**An Evening with Pam Ayres**  
 Thu at 7.30pm, £23 - £23.75  
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
 Call 01543 412121

**Fashionably Late by Ginny Davis**  
 Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £14  
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
 Call 01543 412121

**Sun at 7.30pm, £10 - £14**  
 Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.  
 Call 01527 577330

## GHOST

**Ghost**  
 Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Wed at  
 2.30pm, £15.50 - £21.50  
 Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
 WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

**Pygmalion**  
 Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm,  
 £9.50 - £12  
 The Rose Theatre,  
 Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.  
 Call 01562 743745

**Oh What A Lovely War**  
 Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm,  
 £13.50 - £35  
 Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
 B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**Births, Deaths & Marriages**  
 Mon at 7pm, £4 - £6  
 Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
 B1 2EP.  
 Call 0121 236 4455

**Sister Act**  
 Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
 £15 - £18  
 Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call  
 01543 412121

**Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**  
 Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at  
 7.30pm, Sat, Wed at 2.30pm,  
 £15.50 - £53.40  
 New Alexandra Theatre,  
 Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
 Call 0844 871 3011

**Sister Act**  
 Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
 £15 - £18  
 The Crescent Theatre,  
 Birmingham, B16 8AE.  
 Call 0121 643 5858

**The Long Road**  
 Sat at 7.45pm, Sun at 2.45pm,  
 Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.45pm,  
 £6 - £11  
 The Crescent Theatre,  
 Birmingham, B16 8AE.  
 Call 0121 643 5858

**Chewing The Fat**  
 Thu at 8pm, £9 - £15  
 Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
 B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**The Printmakers**  
 Sat at 8pm, £10 - £12  
 Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton,  
 WV1 1SE. Call 01902 321321

**Birmingham Cabaret Festival**  
 Thu at 8pm, £10  
 The Old Joint Stock,  
 Birmingham, B2 5NY.  
 Call 0121 200 1892

**Birmingham Cabaret Festival**  
 Thu at 8pm, £10  
 The Old Joint Stock,  
 Birmingham, B2 5NY.  
 Call 0121 200 1892

## COMEDY

**Andy Parsons Live and Unleashed**  
 Sat at 8pm, £15 - £15.75  
 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
 ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Paul Foot**  
 Sat, Sun at 7pm, £13.50 - £13.75  
 The Slade Rooms,  
 Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.  
 Call 01902 552106

**Jack Dee's Help Desk**  
 Wed at 6.45pm, £18.50  
 The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
 B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Henning Wehn**  
 Thu at 7.30pm, £14.50 -  
 £16.75  
 Palace Theatre, Redditch,  
 B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

**Haden Hill House Anniversary**  
 Sun at 2pm - 5.30pm,  
 Haden Hill House Museum,  
 Cradley Heath, B64 7JU.  
 Call 01384 569444

**The Sooty Show presents**  
 Sat, Sun at 9.30am - 4pm,  
 £11.95 - £16.25  
 Cadbury World, Bournville,  
 Birmingham, B30 2LU.  
 Call 0844 880 7667

**Guy Day's: Hints & Tips**  
 Tue, Wed at 11am, £23  
 Weston Park,  
 Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal,  
 TF11 8LE. Call 01952 852100

**Evening Scenic Specials**  
 Sat at 7pm, £8 - £13  
 Severn Valley Railway,  
 Kidderminster, DY10 1QR.  
 Call 01299 403816

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# Take That relish their threedom



Everything Changes — Take That soar over the heads of their fans in a spectacular concert, picture by Andrew Whittom

AND then there were three... the new trio version of Take That promise a spectacular series of shows at the Genting Arena, starting on Monday.

Gary Barlow, Mark Owen and Howard Donald will play a total of seven concerts at the mega venue near Birmingham, also including Tuesday, Thursday, next Friday and Saturday, before returning on June 22 and 23.

Take That are the UK's most successful live act ever.

They have had eight number one albums, 15 number one singles, sold over 30 million albums, won six Ivor Novello awards, eight BRITs and sold over seven million concert tickets.

Minus Jason Orange and Robbie Williams, the band have returned with aptly-titled new album III and

the hit These Days. They are embarking on a 24-date tour, four years after their record-breaking Progress Live wowed their fans.

It will be worth turning up in time to catch support act, the BRIT-nominated Ella Henderson, who hit the number one spot with her debut album Chapter One and had hits with the singles Ghost and Glow.

## Thea haunted by her songs

IT will surely one day be a Trivial Pursuit question: Name the UK artist who first hit the top 40 with her 14th album? It was Thea Gilmore with her 2013 release Regardless.

Thea's slow burning career has seen her garner more and more fans since she first emerged as an 18-year-old with her debut Burning Dorothy.

Now, 17 years on, album number 15 Ghosts & Graffiti is a compilation of four new songs, alongside six newly-recorded versions of previous favourites and her recent run of radio hits.

The album features collaborations with fantasy writer Neil Gaiman, cult New York singer-songwriter Joan Armatrading (Joan Wasser), folk-rockers The Waterboys, folk legend Joan Baez, punk poet John Cooper Clarke, Scottish singer-songwriter King Creosote (Kenny Anderson) and acclaimed Mancunian band I Am Kloot.

In General Election year, she also nails her political beliefs to the mast with My Voice, performed with Billy Bragg.

Thea, who starts her UK tour at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday, said: "I didn't set out to make so many albums. There was no master plan, I just had things to say so I found a way to say them."

Now I see every record as a snapshot of that particular time in my life. It's like a haunting, the songs are the ghosts of my past."

Tickets cost £24.50 with fees. For further details see the www.thsh.co.uk website.



*'I had things to say so I found a way to say them'*

### Little Voice will be heard again at Rep

TWO of Britain's favourite soap actors are in a new production of Jim Cartwright's popular play The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice, at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from May 15 to 30.

The Olivier award-winning play about the shy but hugely talented Little Voice stars Coronation Street's Vicky Entwistle and Chris Gascoyne, who played Janice Battersby and Peter Barlow. In the demanding role of LV is Nancy Sullivan from the West End production of Les Misérables. Vicky Entwistle plays her blowsy mum and Chris Gascoyne is agent Ray Say, who wants to cash in on LV's impersonations of such divas as Judy Garland and Shirley Bassey.

### Ray patched up to play new date

AMERICAN soft rock specialists Dr Hook, featuring iconic eyepatch wearing frontman Ray Sawyer, return to live work following Ray's accident that postponed the band's March Hooked on Hits tour. The 78-year-old broke his arm in a fall.

One of the rescheduled shows includes the Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 14. The now solo Dennis Locorriere was the main vocalist for most of the band's hits, but Ray Sawyer — who lost an eye in a car accident in 1967 — also contributed vocals, most memorably on Cover Of The Rolling Stone. Expect to hear all the hits, including Sylvia's Mother.

### Cabaret festival at pub theatre

BIRMINGHAM'S first cabaret festival is going to take place during the second half of May.

The Old Joint Stock theatre pub at Temple Row West in the city centre is the venue for acts ranging from comedy to circus via music, drag and burlesque.

It kicks off with Edinburgh Fringe hit Boris and Sergey's Vaudevilian Adventure, an adults only puppet show, on May 15. Other highlights will include gentleman juggler Matt Ricardo on May 16, Mr B The Gentleman Rhymers on May 22 and The Weatherman by Kiki Lovechild on May 27. For full line up see www.oldjointstock.co.uk website.

**Great Bar...Great Food...  
Great Entertainment...**

# Knights Quest

**FRIDAY 8TH MAY**  
JAMES WYTHES  
SUPERB YOUNG SINGER

**SATURDAY 9TH MAY**  
SUPER-ONIT....  
OASIS TRIBUTE BAND

**SUNDAY 10TH MAY**  
STARMAKERS SUNDAY NIGHT  
KARAOKE PARTY

**MONDAY 11TH MAY**  
FUN QUIZ AND KARAOKE

**TUESDAY 12TH MAY**  
KARAOKE WITH PREDATOR

**WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY**  
ADRIAN MICHAELS A.K.A.  
"THE CHEEKY CHAPPIE"

**THURSDAY 14TH MAY**  
THURSDAY IS STARMAKERS  
KARAOKE

**DAILY CARVERY**  
**only £3.45**

We also serve  
**GREAT STEAK & GRILL DEALS**

**SUNDAY CARVERY**  
**only £4.95**

**12 noon-5 pm**

**MON-THURS : 12.00-2.30PM, 6-8PM | FRI-SAT 12.00-2.30PM**

**"It's Great Down the Pub!"**

**High Street, Blackheath**  
**Tel: 0121 561 5599**  
Find us at [www.theknightsquest.co.uk](http://www.theknightsquest.co.uk)

**We serve until 1am on Sundays, Midnight Monday-Wednesday, 1am Thursday, 2am Friday & Saturday DOORS CLOSE 11.00 pm Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun**

**Coombeswood Canal Trust  
OPEN WEEKEND**

**Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th May**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**For a great day out for the whole family**

**10.00am to 4.00pm**

**Hawne Basin, Hereward Rise Halesowen B62 8AW**

- Live music
- Boat trips
- Kids games
- Stalls
- Food
- Horse drawn boats (Saturday)
- Birds of prey (Sunday)
- Childrens treasure hunt
- Historic narrowboats

**YOU CAN BREW YOUR OWN Cider, wine Lager or beer**

**with BREWMONKEY**

**HOMEBREW**

**Summer is coming!**

**Come to our shop in CRADLEY HEATH**  
27 High Street. Opposite Tesco  
Telephone **01384 620238**  
For online sales visit: [brewmonkey.co.uk](http://brewmonkey.co.uk)

**GREAT VALUE COACH TOURS**

Return coach travel from your local West Midlands pick-up point

**Coronation Street The Tour**  
2 DAYS ONLY £79.95  
★ Admission included to the Coronation Street Tour  
★ Discovery Visit to Liverpool  
Overnight dinner, bed & breakfast at a selected hotel  
SATURDAYS 16 May, 13 Jun, 11, 25 Jul, 8, 22 Aug, 19 Sep

**Eastbourne**  
Borde Hill Gardens & Steam  
2 FREE Coach Trips  
★ Borde Hill Gardens & Bluebell Steam  
★ Coastal Drive to Brighton  
Four nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the Alexandra Hotel, Eastbourne  
MONDAYS BANK HOLS 25 May, 3, 17, 31 Aug  
5 DAYS FROM £199.95

**BOOK NOW OR CALL FOR FREE BROCHURE**  
**0844 682 2618**  
or visit [travelstyletours.co.uk](http://travelstyletours.co.uk)

**Travelstyle**  
miles more smiles

**Ferris HOLIDAYS**

**Coach Holidays to SPAIN**

BENIDORM • LLORET • MALGRAT • SANTA SUSANNA • CALELLA • PINEDA

10 DAYS/7 NIGHTS OTHER DURATIONS AVAILABLE

<b>HALF BOARD</b> FROM <b>£169</b> PER ADULT 1st CHILD 2-12 YRS FROM <b>£69</b>	<b>FULL BOARD</b> FROM <b>£204</b> PER ADULT 1st CHILD 2-12 YRS FROM <b>£69</b>	<b>ALL INCLUSIVE</b> FROM <b>£199</b> PER ADULT 1st CHILD 2-12 YRS FROM <b>£69</b>
--	--	---

PRICES BASED ON 2 FULL PAYING PASSENGERS SHARING AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

**MONDAY & FRIDAY DEPARTURES: FROM MAY TO OCTOBER**

**GET YOUR FREE BROCHURE TODAY!**  
**TEL: 01443 844222**  
[www.ferriscoachholidays.co.uk](http://www.ferriscoachholidays.co.uk)

**ABTA**  
W928X





Silk Roots restaurant and the Old Mitre Inn, on Bursnips Road, Essington



Larger parties are catered for among the 160 covers



The restaurant is also set out to allow privacy for its diners



One of the eatery's delicious offerings



There are 10 combination dishes to choose from

# Silk appeal firmly rooted in word of mouth on this handy eatery

**INDIAN restaurant proprietors will tell you they rely on word of mouth to attract custom. It's a policy that is working very well for Nazrul Islam.**

He has a loyal fanbase, having built up a reputation at Balti Nights in Willenhall, and these customers have helped spread the word since the move to the Old Mitre pub just under a year ago.

Located along Bursnips Road, Essington, on the main stretch of the A462, the eatery could not be more ideally placed for passing trade and is perfect for diners travelling from the Wolverhampton, Bloxwich, Walsall and Cannock areas.

A back-to-back winner of the best Midlands restaurant title while at Balti Nights, Nazrul has more than 15 years experience in the restaurant trade and is keen on

By Mark Shipp

helping out good causes, too, with around £40,000 raised over the years for children's charities and Acorns Hospice.

"We worked hard for 15 years or so, so when we came here, a lot of people followed us," said Nazrul. "I am honoured by the support shown by customers."

After buying the premises from Enterprise Inns, Nazrul quickly set about transforming it into Silk Roots and around 90 people turned out for its opening. The Old Mitre still stands, however, and serves traditional pub fare. In fact, Nazrul is keen to bring back its glory days.

"The Old Mitre had a good reputation and we want to bring that back," he said.

Tastefully decorated, Silk Roots caters for 160 diners, with corporate bookings and private parties accepted. Parking is plenti-

ful, with spaces across the road in addition to the restaurant's own car park.

The restaurant can be accessed via the pub, and diners can sit with a drink while waiting for a table. Pub lunches are also served.

## Appetite

My partner and I ventured on a midweek night and after a drink to whet the appetite, poppadums were the order of the day. This led to a novelty for me, as, while these came with the traditional dips, it is usually assumed one knows what these are. Here, staff took the time to explain what all these dips were – a pleasant, personal touch that only added to the experience.

A mixed starter was dished up for us next, with lamb chops, kebabs and bhajis, which, while tasty, only served to fill us up before the mains arrived. We gave them a good go,

though, and again there was an extensive offering. My own choice was Combination Number 9, or chicken mital and chicken tikka malay to give it its proper name. The medium dishes complemented each other well, while my partner's option was the chicken passanda, creamy and served with ground almonds and pistachios.

The beauty is, with the starters included, the meals alone would amount to just £20, so despite a bulging waistline, there's not a big dent left in the bank balance.

Alas, there was no room to choose from the dessert list that included apple pie and chocolate fudge cake.

In the run-up to the restaurant's first anniversary, diners can enjoy four courses from the a la carte menu for £9.95 on a Sunday and a Monday. There is a takeaway and delivery service. To book, call 01922 276900 or visit [www.silkrootsrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.silkrootsrestaurant.co.uk)

## Dine & Drink @ Red Leaf World Buffet

Taking the multi cuisine dining experience to the next level by creating a multi-cultural and multi-dimensional restaurant right in the heart of West Bromwich.

The Red Leaf World Buffet on High Street West Bromwich is a perfect venue for business lunches, wedding celebrations, social gathering, cooperate dinner or birthday parties. Everything that you can think of is just under one roof.

Since opening in 2014, Red Leaf has gone from strength to strength with an emphasis on food quality and an ever-changing variety of cuisines including Caribbean, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Mexican and Thai dishes. On an average a day, there are over 150 freshly cooked and replenished dishes to choose from, including a broad variety of the vegetarian choices.

As well as the food bars and counters, an open kitchen island features a number of chefs (also from across the world). Customers can ask for a particular dish to be prepared instantly to add to their buffet choice. Regular choices of Indian Naan bread and Dosa pancake, Chinese Stir fry and Grilled dishes are often supplemented by other speciality delicacies.

### Weekend Specials

On busy weekends (from Friday), the number of dishes are increased, including an extended seafood and salad bars, Weekend specials such as Paella and Sushi plus traditional English roast on Sundays. There is also more for kids with free face painting on Saturday's lunchtime & a resident clown on Sundays all day. There is a free parking too.

This multi-cultural restaurant offers a broad variety of delicious dishes from across the world in one comfortable 200 seat space.

Special events are one of the key features at Red Leaf. They have just had a great success during Punjabi Food Festival in April. There were



many authentic dishes added to the regular buffet choices over 10 days during the festival, using locally sourced Meat, Poultry and Vegetables from the local suppliers & from the local farms.

A fixed price (varies across the week) includes as much as one can manage from the entire restaurant, from starters, sides, salads, mains and desserts. The drinks, also carries a broad range of beverages: soft drinks, teas and coffees, cocktails, mocktails & smoothies, wines and champagnes, beers, spirits and liqueurs.

Briefly, Red Leaf is a place where an exciting variety of freshly replenished and instantly cooked dishes are available at an affordable price in an open space of warm hospitality and more legroom than most other buffet restaurants.

Special offers are also part of the Red Leaf relationship, so it's a good idea to stay informed via Twitter and Facebook to save a few quid on a regular basis.

For more information, please visit [www.redleafworldbuffet.co.uk](http://www.redleafworldbuffet.co.uk)

## star★extra TRAVEL

# ELVIS at The O2

London has been All Shook Up with the arrival of the largest ever Elvis collection in Europe. *Elvis at the O2: The Exhibition of His Life* tells the story of a music revolution and the lasting impact of his incredible legacy.

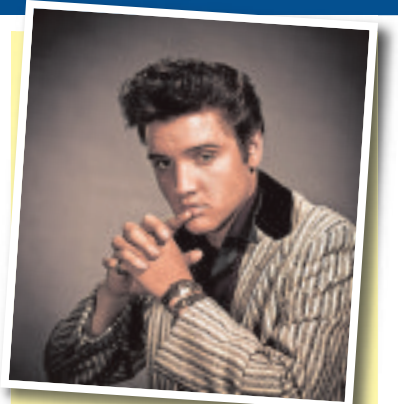
Fans can admire over 300 artefacts direct from the Presley family's treasured archives, some of which have never been seen outside of Graceland, Memphis, where Elvis lived most of his life.

The Elvis exhibition includes automobiles, personal items, iconic stage costumes, guitars, gold and platinum records and photography in addition to dazzling audio and video presentations.

Even the famous pool table Elvis played on with The Beatles will be on display and his wallet containing photos of a young Lisa Marie Presley along with his keys to Graceland.

It's a fascinating and personal insight into the music, movies and style of the King of Rock 'n' Roll.

Also included is a visit to Greenwich plus some free time in London to see the sights and sounds of the vibrant capital.



**FROM £115**

**Two days departing June 6 and Aug 22**

### PRICE INCLUDES:

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to the Elvis Exhibition at the O2
- Free time in central London
- Visit to Greenwich
- Single rooms subject to availability
- supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

For a brochure call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to [expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)  
Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions  
Pick-up points offered include Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall, Wolverhampton



CHOICE



Katherine Jenkins

**VE Day 70: A Party to Remember BBC1, 8.30pm**  
Chris Evans hosts a live concert from Horse Guards Parade in London as part of the national celebrations for the 70th anniversary of VE Day. Among those taking the stage are Alfie Boe, Elaine Paige, Chas and Dave, Collabro, Gregory Porter and Katherine Jenkins, performing songs that reflect the mood of the nation at the time. Other singers, some of who are backed by a live big band, are Alexander Armstrong, Jamelia, Pixie Lott and Rebecca Ferguson, plus Status Quo. There are dance tributes from Diversity and the Strictly professionals, and readings from actors including Adrian Lester, Bernard Cribbins, Ian Lavender, Jane Horrocks, Julia Sawalha, Laurence Fox and Nigel Havers.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Live Athletics: Great CityGames Manchester. Coverage of the seventh staging of the event. 3.00 Final Score. 5.10 Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix Qualifying – Highlights.  
**6.20 BBC News.**  
**6.35 Regional Programme.**  
**6.45 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present the general knowledge quiz. Celebrity teams Henry Kelly and Matthew Kelly, Tom O'Connor and Jenny Powell, Nina Myskow and Gyles Brandreth and Ulrika Jonsson and Nick Hancock try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public.  
**7.35 Atlantis.** When Jason is caught by Pasiphae's troops, the heroes know they must do all they can to save him before he is lost for ever, so Aeson undertakes a mission to rescue his son.  
**8.20 The National Lottery Live.** Jenni Falconer introduces the results of this week's draws, with Madness frontman Suggs on hand to press the button and release the balls.  
**8.30 VE Day 70: A Party to Remember.** Chris Evans hosts a live concert from Horse Guards Parade in London as part of the national celebrations for the 70th anniversary of VE Day. Among those taking the stage are Alfie Boe, Elaine Paige, Chas and Dave, Collabro, Gregory Porter and Katherine Jenkins, performing songs that reflect the mood of the nation at the time. Other singers, some of who are backed by a live big band, are Alexander Armstrong, Jamelia, Pixie Lott and Rebecca Ferguson, plus Status Quo. There are dance tributes from Diversity and the Strictly professionals.  
**10.25 BBC News; Weather.**  
**10.45 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Crystal Palace v Manchester United at Selhurst Park and Hull City v Burnley at the KC Stadium; National Lottery Update.  
**12.10 Film: DOA.** (1988) 1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.50 BBC News.

BBC2

**6.10 Film: The Story of GI Joe.** (1945) 8.00 How We Won the War. (R) 8.30 How We Won the War. (R) 9.00 The Lancaster: Britain's Flying Past. (R) 10.00 Wellington Bomber. (R) 11.00 Churchill: The Nation's Farewell. (R) 12.00 Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.30 Escape to the Country. (R) 2.15 Hitchcock's Leading Actors: Talking Pictures. 2.50 Film: Vertigo. (1958) Hitchcock thriller, starring James Stewart. 4.55 Flog It! (R) 5.25 Newsnight Special. 5.55 Gardeners' World. (R)  
**6.25 Dad's Army.** Last-ever episode of the wartime comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. Last in the series. (R)  
**7.00 BBC Young Dancer 2015.** Zoe Ball and Darcey Bussell present the grand final of the talent search from Sadler's Wells. Six dancers have made it through to the last show, and each will perform a solo piece from their repertoire, a duet and a new piece devised for them by one of the UK's leading choreographers. The judging panel is made up of leading directors and choreographers Matthew Bourne, Mavin Kho, Wayne McGregor, Tamara Rojo, Kenrick Sandy and Alistair Spalding. Last in the series.  
**9.00 Some People with Jokes.** Members of the public who are 60 years of age and over tell their favourite jokes to the camera. (R)  
**9.15 Film: Salmon Fishing in the Yemen.** (2011) A British fisheries expert is recruited by an Arab sheikh, who believes the sport of salmon fishing can enrich the lives of his people – if only there were fish to catch. The scientist is soon undertaking an ambitious scheme to introduce salmon to the desert, and finds his own government have an interest in the project. Comedy drama based on Paul Torday's novel, with Ewan McGregor, Emily Blunt and Kristin Scott Thomas.  
**10.55 QI XL.** Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the quiz with a difference, with Josh Widdicombe, Phill Jupitus, Katherine Ryan and Alan Davies answering questions on the topic of K-Folk. (R)  
**11.40 Film: The Way.** (2010) Comedy drama, starring Martin Sheen, Deborah Kara Unger and James Nesbitt.  
**1.45 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00 CITY: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge.** 6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 7.00 Canimals. (R) 7.15 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45 Nerds & Monsters. (R) 8.00 Thunderbirds Are Go. 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.30 ITV News; Weather. 12.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.40 Doc Martin. (R) 2.45 Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) 3.45 Film: Cats & Dogs. (2001) Comedy, starring Jeff Goldblum. 5.30 Regional Programme: Weather. 5.45 ITV News; Weather.  
**6.00 New You've Been Framed! Reloaded.** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers in this special extended episode.  
**7.00 Ninja Warrior UK.** Competitors from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. Those who make it to the end of the adrenaline-fuelled mission face one final task – scaling the heights of a tower named Mount Midoriyama – as they battle it out for the title of Ninja Warrior UK.  
**8.00 Britain's Got Talent.** Ant and Dec host the latest round of the nationwide talent search. A wide variety of acts, from comedians to contortionists, singers to spoon players, compete to impress judging panel Simon Cowell, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and David Walliams with their unusual skills – with a huge cash prize and a coveted slot at the Royal Variety Performance up for grabs at the end of the series.  
**9.15 Play to the Whistle.** Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, comedian Bob Mortimer and Emmerdale star Natalie Anderson join team captains Frank Lampard and Bradley Walsh on the comedy sports quiz.  
**10.00 ITV News; Weather.**  
**10.15 Film: American Gangster.** (2007) Fact-based crime drama about 1970s drug kingpin Frank Lucas and the cop who tried to bring him down in the face of police corruption. Starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe.  
**1.00 Jackpot247.** 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.40 ITV NightScreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.15 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.40 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.05 Challenge Wanaka. 7.30 The Grid. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 10.30 Frasier. (R) 11.00 Frasier. (R) 11.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) 1.25 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot, Lingfield Park and Haydock Park. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.45 Come Dine with Me. (R)  
**6.10 The Simpsons.** A terrorism scare prompts the people of Springfield to hire a British security consultant, who installs surveillance cameras everywhere. (R)  
**6.35 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00 For the Love of Cars.** Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead turn their attention to the 1980s "hot hatch" – city run-a-rounds, such as the Volkswagen Golf GTI and Peugeot 205, which became must-haves for boy racers. They help transform a Golf GTI Mk 1 into a rally car and meet hatchback fanatics to discover why people are so passionate about these vehicles and how, for some, they defined an era. (R)  
**8.00 The World's Most Extreme.** An exploration of the most dangerous rivers on the planet, including the Panama Canal and the Congo River, where white-water rafters try to beat undefeated rapids.  
**9.00 Film: Robin Hood.** (2010) An archer fighting in Richard the Lionheart's crusading army returns home to England and assumes the identity of a nobleman killed in battle. His new-found status draws him into a dangerous conflict with members of the newly crowned King John's court, and a traitorous knight plots to aid the French in conquering England. Ridley Scott's medieval adventure, starring Russell Crowe.  
**11.45 Lee Mack Live.** The comedian's live show, performed at London's Bloomsbury Theatre, in which he touches on bizarre subjects, from pasty marketing to grandmothers snorting a powdered dessert. (R)  
**12.50 Alan Carr: Chatty Man.** (R) 1.45 Hollyoaks. (R) 3.50 Sarah Beeny's Selling Houses. (R) 4.45 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) 5.00 Deal or No Deal. (R) 5.55 How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.35 Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) 10.45 Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) 11.45 Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) 12.45 Film: Attack on the Iron Coast. (1969) 2.35 Film: Columbo: A Trace of Murder. (1997) 4.30 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 6.25 Britain's Horror Homes. (R)  
**6.25 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred's first case sees them in a Brighton health spa as they search for assets to seize in pursuit of a £20,000 debt. Following a stand-off, they devise a way to work with the owner and her professional advisers to come up with a solution. Later, Graham reveals his softer side when he revisits a woman who defaulted on a debt payment plan. (R)  
**7.25 5 News Weekend.**  
**7.30 NCIS.** Kidnappers strike on Halloween, wounding a marine sergeant and snatching his daughter – leaving the team members wondering why anyone would try to extort money from someone on such a modest salary. As the agents begin searching for a motive, Abby surprises everyone by turning up at the lab in a revealing fancy-dress costume. (R)  
**8.25 NCIS.** The team joins forces with military investigators to ascertain whether terrorists were responsible for an explosion at a golf course in which a marine colonel was killed. (R)  
**9.15 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** A body is found in the woods, covered in chrome paint. A shard of glass leads Sara and Julie to two rich brothers, who are fighting over their father's collection of classic cars.  
**10.10 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** A criminal performing community service is suspected of murdering two people – but even after he is caught, the killings continue. (R)  
**11.05 The NCIS Movie: Judgement Day.** The funeral of a special agent in Los Angeles leads Shepard on a covert mission to finish some classified business she began a decade previously in Europe. (R)  
**12.55 SuperCasino.** 3.10 Autopsy: The Last Hours of River Phoenix. (R) 4.00 World's Busiest Hotel. (R) 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Top Gear.** 8.05 Don't Tell the Bride 9.05 Live at the Apollo 9.35 Happy Valley 10.35 Family Guy 12.45 Murder in Successville 1.15 Nick Helm's Heavy Entertainment 1.45 Live at the Apollo 2.15 Don't Tell the Bride 3.15 Tatu 4.00 Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures.** 8.00 Wild China 9.00 Inspector Montalbano 10.45 Country at the BBC 12.15 Neil Diamond: Radio 2 Electric Prom 1.20 Wild China 2.20 The Top of the Pops: 1980 3.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures 4.00 Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.00 Britain's Got Talent.** 12.20 Britain's Got More Talent 1.20 Celebrity Catchphrase 2.20 Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) 4.10 Mr Bean 5.15 Film: The Smurfs (2011) 7.20 Film: Evan Almighty (2007) 9.15 Britain's Got More Talent 10.20 Celebrity Juice 11.05 Britain's Got Talent 12.20 Britain's Got More Talent 1.20 Hell's Kitchen 2.05 Crazy Beaches 2.30 Life's Funniest Moments 2.50 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**11.10 Film: Carry On Screaming** (1966) 1.10 Film: The Mirror Crack'd (1980) 3.20 Wycliffe 4.25 Film: Columbo: A Sitch in Crime (1973) 6.00 Lewis 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War 11.05 Inspector Morse 1.20 Wire in the Blood 2.15 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.00 Live FIA Formula E Championship.** The Monte Carlo ePrix qualifying session. 12.15 Prawn Stars 1.05 Counting Cars 2.00 Live FIA Formula E Championship. The Monte Carlo ePrix. 4.30 British Superbike Championship Highlights 5.35 Prawn Stars 6.00 Storage Wars: Texas 7.00 Shed and Buried 8.00 Film: Goldfinger (1964) 10.20 Film: Basic (2003) 12.25 Film: Age of Heroes (2011) 2.20 Whisker Wars 2.45 Movies Now 2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.30 The Goldbergs** 1.00 How I Met Your Mother 2.00 Film: St Trinian's (2007) 4.00 Made in Chelsea 5.00 Jane the Virgin (2011) The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Limitless (2011) 11.05 The Big Bang Theory 1.30 Rule Tube: Animal Madness 2.45 Channel 4's Comedy Gala 2013 3.15 2 Broke Girls 3.40 How I Met Your Mother 4.25 Make It or Break It  
**Film4**  
**11.00 Fixed Bayonets!** (1951) 1.00 Bride Wars (2009) 2.45 Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (2011) 4.30 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) 6.50 Congo (1995) 9.00 Priest (2011) 10.45 Scary Movie 2 (2001) 12.20 Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) 2.05 Flirting with Disaster (1996) 4.00 Close

Want to use your conservatory all year round?  
Too **HOT** in summer?  
Too **COLD** in winter?

Replace your existing roof with a Supalite Roof System lightweight replacement for your conservatory roof

- Choice of tiles and colours
- Save energy, conserve heat

**SupaLite**  
MIDLANDS LTD



Before



After

**SUPALITE MIDLANDS LTD have the solution ....**

**ONLY MIDLANDS MANUFACTURER**

No Planning Permission needed!

**0121 552 0100 / 0800 0075313**

**www.supalitemidlands.com / sales@supalitemidlands.com**

**Swim School**

How well can you swim?

**Swimming Lessons from baby to adult**

**Spaces available**

**Haden Hill Leisure Centre**

**Barrs Road, Cradley Heath, B64 7H**

Flexible payment plans  
Check progress online



SANDWELL LEISURE TRUST

**www.slt-leisure.co.uk**

**0300 012 0121**

Award winning services supporting Sandwell's scorecard





## CHOICE



Alexander Armstrong

**Sunday Night at the Palladium**  
**ITV, 8pm**

Actor, comedian and singer Alexander Armstrong hosts the variety show from the West End theatre, introducing music by violinist Andre Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, and two of America's hottest singing talents – All About That Bass star Meghan Trainor and Josh Groban, whose classical-style voice has helped him shift more than 25 million albums. There's also comedy from Lee Nelson and Rod Woodward, hot moves from Ethiopian acrobatics AAC Boys and dancers Quest Crew, and an energetic performance from the cast of West End musical The Commitments.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** VE Day 70: The Nation Remembers. **1.30** Sunday Politics. **2.45** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.15** Shark. (R) **4.15** Points of View. **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix – Highlights.

## 6.30 BBC News.

## 6.50 Regional Programme.

**7.00** **Countryfile**. Adam Henson is at the Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, where he announces the winner of the first Countryfile Farming Hero and also talks about his own hero, Robert Bakewell, the father of selective breeding. The rest of the team celebrates other farming pioneers past and present, including tractor inventor Harry Ferguson, the men who set up the RSPCA and a man whose efforts gave farmers a voice and helped feed the nation when it was needed the most. With Matt Baker, Ellie Harrison, Anita Rani and Tom Heap.

## 8.00 The British Academy Television Awards.

Graham Norton hosts the annual ceremony celebrating the best of British TV, held at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in London. Shows battling for recognition include Happy Valley, Line of Duty, The Missing and Marvellous, which all have three nominations each, while the entertainment performance category sees Graham himself competing against Ant and Dec, Claudia Winkelman for Strictly and Leigh Francis – better known as alter ego Keith Lemon – for Celebrity Juice. Channel 4 News anchor Jon Snow will be awarded the Bafta Fellowship, celebrating more than 40 years in journalism and broadcasting.

## 10.00 BBC News.

## 10.20 Regional Programme.

**10.30** **Match of the Day 2**. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Chelsea v Liverpool at Stamford Bridge and Manchester City v Queens Park Rangers at the Etihad Stadium.

**11.30** **Film: The Mothman Prophecies**. (2002) A journalist investigates reports of encounters with a moth-like creature that his wife claimed to see before she died. Thriller, with Richard Gere.

**1.20** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.25** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.05** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **7.00** Countryfile. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Athletics: Great Manchester Run. Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** MOTD2 Extra. **2.00** Equestrian: Badminton Horse Trials. **4.00** The Olympic Journey: Born Winners. Gabby Logan investigates whether a person's DNA decides if they will be a winner. **4.30** Athletics: Great Manchester Run Highlights. **5.30** Flog It! (R)

**6.00** **VE Day 70: The Nation Remembers – Highlights**. Today's events to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day, beginning with a service of thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey, followed by a parade of veterans and a fly-past.

**7.00** **Britain's Greatest Generation**. The extraordinary stories of some of the British men and women who fought or lived through the Second World War, now in their nineties or older. (R)

**8.00** **Hunters of the South Seas**. Will Millard heads to the Trobriand Islands, 150 miles off the east coast of Papua New Guinea, where he discovers a trading network called the Kula Ring. Last in the series.

**9.00** **Wellington: The Iron Duke Unmasked**. First in a two-part portrait of the Duke of Wellington, with Richard E Grant starring in a series of dramatic reconstructions aiming to discover the man behind the public image.

**10.00** **Modern Times: For Richer For Poorer**. Every year, half-a-million new businesses are launched in Britain and 40 per cent of them will be run by couples. Cameras follow four of these brave, enterprising twosomes.

**11.00** **W1A**. Anna is crowned as the Head of Office, and the staff are given the task of announcing the concept to the world at large – which is fine, except none of them know what Better means. (R)

**11.30** **Film: Smart People**. (2008) A misanthropic professor's self-absorption threatens his faltering relationship with a former student. Comedy drama, starring Dennis Quaid, Ellen Page and Thomas Haden Church.

**1.00** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.55** Holy City. (R) **2.55** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITY: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **10.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **11.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques. (R) **1.05** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.50** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.05** Film: Mannequin. (1987) Fantasy comedy, starring Andrew McCarthy. **4.50** The Chase. (R) **5.50** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)

**6.50** **Regional Programme**: Weather.

**7.00** **ITV News**: Weather.

**7.15** **Celebrity Squares**. Noughts-and-crosses game show, with guests Jonathan Ross, Laura Whitmore, Tony Law, Gabby Logan, Nina Conti, Union J and Shappi Khorsandi. Warwick Davis hosts.

**8.00** **Sunday Night at the Palladium**. Actor, comedian and singer Alexander Armstrong hosts the variety show from the West End theatre, introducing music by violinist Andre Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, and two of America's hottest singing talents – All About That Bass star Meghan Trainor and Josh Groban, whose classical-style voice has helped him shift more than 25 million albums. There's also comedy from Lee Nelson and Rod Woodward, hot moves from Ethiopian acrobatics AAC Boys and dancers Quest Crew, and an energetic performance from the cast of West End musical The Commitments.

**9.00** **Home Fires**. Drama about a wartime Women's Institute group. As Frances and Joyce battle for leadership, Pat struggles with her unhappy marriage and Miriam tries to stop David enlisting.

**10.00** **ITV News**: Weather.

**10.35** **Perspectives: In Charlie Chaplin's Footsteps**. Monty Python star Terry Jones, a long-time fan of silent comedy, offers a personal appraisal of the man who arguably changed the face of film comedy in the 1920s.

**11.35** **Premiership Rugby Union**.

**12.30** The Store. **2.30** Motorsport UK. **3.20** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.20** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** British GT. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30** Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. (2011) Children's comedy, with Zachary Gordon. **5.30** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.

## 6.30 Channel 4 News.

**7.00** **Three in a Bed**. At the Maypole Inn Pub and B&B in Skipton, North Yorkshire, former Butlins stand-up comic Malcolm Kilbourne and his wife Sue don't believe in unnecessary frills. Their rivals are perfectionists Ianroy and Melanie McCall of the luxury Wootton Park estate in Warwickshire, and retired Navy Wren Mary Lloyd-Wright and her stepdaughter Cherry Crispit, who own Hooks Cottage in the Dartmoor countryside. The week of competitive hosting features unwelcome surprises beneath the sheets, fancy bottles of water and a stand-off between guests and wildlife.

**8.00** **For the Love of Cars**. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead enter the world of micro cars, driving a 1960 Messerschmitt, 1960s bubble cars and the ill-fated Sinclair C5, as well as restoring a Fiat 500.

**9.00** **Film: Prometheus**. (2012) Premiere. A spacecraft is sent to another world, following clues left in ancient artefacts, in search of aliens that may have created the human race. However, the explorers on board discover the extraterrestrials may not be the benevolent creatures they imagined, while the company funding the expedition has its own agenda. Ridley Scott's sci-fi thriller and Alien prequel, starring Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender, Charlize Theron and Idris Elba.

**11.25** **Film: Piranha 3DD**. (2012) The opening of a water park is turned into a massacre when man-eating fish start feasting on the visitors. Comedy horror, starring Danielle Panabaker and Matt Bush.

**1.00** 24 Hours in a Day. (R) **1.55** Film: Naalu Pennungal. (2007) **3.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.50** Deal or No Deal. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Miao Miao. (R) **7.00** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.15** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.45** Film: National Security. (2003) Action comedy, starring Martin Lawrence and Steve Zahn. **3.25** Film: Big Momma's House. (2000) Comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. **5.15** 5 News Weekend. **5.20** Film: Spider-Man 3. (2007) An alien parasite causes the web-slinging crimefighter's dark side to surface as he seeks revenge on his uncle's killer. Superhero sequel, with Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst.

**8.00** **Film: Crown Up**. (2011) Five friends reunite for the funeral of their high-school basketball coach. However, when they discover they have all acquired the problems and responsibilities that come with adulthood, they decide to spend a weekend at a lake house in a bid to recapture their childhood. Comedy, with Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Kevin James, David Spade and Rob Schneider.

**10.00** **Film: Safe**. (2012) A former cage fighter protects a 12-year-old girl holding valuable information that several criminal families want. Action thriller, starring Jason Statham and Catherine Chan.

**11.45** **Film: Soldiers of Fortune**. (2012) Premiere. A group of wealthy thrill-seekers pay big bucks to experience a military-style mission. Action adventure, starring Christian Slater. **1.35** SuperCats. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. The observational documentary returns, this time giving an insight into the work of doctors at Putney Medical Group Medical Practice in Putney, south-west London. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. (R)

## DIGITAL

## BBC Three

**7.00** Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth. **7.10** Top Gear. **7.55** Film: Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. (2011) **10.00** Tatu. **11.25** Family Guy. **12.10** Murder in Successville. **12.40** American Dad! **1.00** Family Guy. **1.25** Russell Howard's Good News. **1.50** Murder in Successville. **2.20** In Deep. **2.40** Tatu. **4.00** Close

## BBC Four

**7.00** Secrets of the Universe: Great Scientists in Their Own Words. **8.00** Horizon: Who's Afraid of a Big Black Hole? **9.00** Horizon: 40 Years on the Moon. **10.00** The Sky at Night. **10.30** Explosions: How We Shock the World. **11.30** The Joy of the Guitar. **12.30** Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC. **1.30** BBC Young Dancer 2015. **2.30** The Sky at Night. **3.00** Horizon: Who's Afraid of a Big Black Hole? **4.00** Close

## ITV2

**12.15** Take Me Out. **1.45** Meghan Trainor: The Hot Desk. **2.00** Film: Homebound II: Lost in San Francisco. (1996) **3.45** Film: Richie Rich. (1994) **5.40** Britain's Got Talent. **7.00** Britain's Got Talent. **8.00** You've Been Framed! Best of the Best. **9.00** Film: The Dark Knight. (2008) **12.05** Film: American Pie Presents Band Camp. (2005) **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records. **2.15** Teleshopping. **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

## ITV3

**12.00** Film: Columbo: A Stitch in Crime. (1973) **1.30** Lewis. **3.35** Wycliffe. **4.45** Agatha Christie's Marple. **6.45** Inspector Morse. **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety. **10.00** Wycliffe. **11.10** Film: Hamlet. (1990) **1.50** Secret Smile. **3.05** Judge Judy. **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen. **3.40** Emmerdale

## ITV4

**11.00** Live British Touring Car Championship. Round three from Thruxton. **6.30** BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights. **7.30** Prawn Stars. **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union. **9.00** Film: National Lampoon's European Vacation. (1985) **11.05** Film: Bowfinger. (1999) **1.00** River Monsters. **2.00** Hell on Wheels. **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen. **3.00** Teleshopping

## E4

**12.00** Made in Chelsea. **1.00** Revenge. **2.00** Jane the Virgin. **3.00** The Goldbears. **4.00** The Big Bang Theory. **8.00** Film: Maid in Manhattan. (2002) **10.05** The Big Bang Theory. **11.10** Film: Jennifer's Body. (2009) **1.15** Virtually Famous. **2.00** Rude Tube: Ultimate Challenges. **2.55** Rules of Engagement. **3.45** Hollyoaks

## Film4

**11.00** The Earth's Core. (1976) **1.00** Journey to the Center of the Earth. (2008) **2.50** Rio. (2011) **4.40** City of Ember. (2008) **6.30** Runaway Jury. (2003) **9.00** The Inbetweeners Movie. (2011) **10.55** Killing Them Softly. (2012) **12.50** A Civil Action. (1998) **3.15** Close

**FIRST FENCE**

Over 15 Years Experience.

Prices Start From £70 A Bay Including Heavy Duty Fence Panel, Concrete Post, Gravel Board & Fitting.

Sheds Now Available!

10 Bays for £570

Gardening Services & Shed Re-felts Also Undertaken.

Free Quotes. All Written Quotes Beaten!!

**01384 834197**  
**07927 014217**

**DOULTON DOORS**

Garage Doors & uPVC Windows & Doors

Our Extensive Range of All Garage Doors Covers All Popular Brands

Complete with Four Point Locking System

PROMOTIONAL OFFER: CANOPY FRAME DOORS Fitted from JUST £550 subject to site survey

We Have Everything from Canopy to Side Hung Styles

Visit Us At: Doulton Trading Est., Doulton Road, Rowley Regis B65 8JG

Wrought Iron Gates & Railings available

All Types of Ornate Gates Made to Measure

Tel: 01384 413331 | 01902 628018 | 01543 499012  
Freephone: 0800 0375179 Mobile: 07721 783291

**www.doultondoors.co.uk**

**JOHN T. HARRIS**

House Furnishers & Re-Upholstery Service

Stockist of chairs to make sitting and rising easier

You can relax with us

Recliner Chairs • Divan Beds • Bed Frames • Mattresses

Ortho Chairs

**0121 559 2402**

1A Causeway, Blackheath

Now open Saturday 10am-2pm, Weekdays 10am-4.00pm

Closed all day Thursday • Private car park

**RUBBER TECH ROOFING**

ALL ROOFING SPECIALISTS

Half Price Offer Limited Time Only

Before After

EDMP Roofing System  
Single Garage from £895 all inc.  
Reboarded with 18 mm smart ply.  
Further reductions on larger areas plus 25 years guarantee.

**www.rubbertechroofing.com**

Enquiries and Free Quotes  
**0800 696 5408 - 07775 519417**

**C&T DOORS & WINDOWS Ltd**

SALE NOW ON ALL AREAS COVERED...

Un glazed/Glazed Upvc Doors from **£349** FULLY FITTED

1 2 3

3mtr x 3mtr EDWARDIAN CONSERVATORY from **£4500**

NEW OFFER French/Patio Doors FULLY FITTED from **£649**

FULLY FITTED within 2 weeks For a service you can trust

MANY MORE DESIGNS AVAILABLE

New Improved 10 Point Claw Lock • Steel Reinforced

**www.candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk**

Tel: **07759 536818** or **01902 842706**  
email: enquiries@candtdoorsandwindows.co.uk

**NATURAL LANDSCAPES**

BY FEATURE STONE

Specialist in all types of natural stone hard landscaping

- Stone Walls
- Stone Floors
- Brickwork
- Pavlos and Paths
- Indian Sandstone & Limestone
- Crazy Paving
- Fireplaces
- Pointing
- York Flagstone
- Stone and Slate Cladding

**www.featurestonepaving.co.uk**

**FREE QUOTATIONS**

Phone/Fax: **01384 459733** | Mobile: **07976 986738**

Safely access your loft!

for ONLY **£399**

Fully Fitted

This price is for a standard height ceiling with an 8ft drop, width 22-30"

- We provide a convenient and safe way to access your loft.
- Each ladder has a 10 year parts guarantee and can be installed in approx. 2-3 hours.
- We offer a loft boarding service if required at an additional cost.

**STAIRS D'LADDERS**

The Local Distributor & Installer for STAIRS

For more information visit: **www.stira.co.uk**

PHONE TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE  
**T: 01952 282152 or 07817 431505**



FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**Death Sentence, Channel 5, 10.55pm**  
Mild-mannered executive Nick Hume's perfect, peaceful life is destroyed when his oldest son is killed by a street gang. Hume becomes determined to see those responsible pay for their crimes, gaining the sympathy and support of a homicide detective working on the case. However, she begins to question her position as Hume's methods of retribution become increasingly violent. Thriller, starring Kevin Bacon, Kelly Preston and Garrett Hedlund. (2007)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Margin Call, BBC1, 11.15pm**  
A bitter executive is dismissed from an investment bank, but plans his revenge by handing secret information on the company's fortunes to a junior analyst. When the information is decoded, it reveals that the company is on the brink of a devastating financial crisis, a revelation that is soon spreading throughout the workforce. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Paul Bettany and Jeremy Irons. (2011)



**FRIDAY**  
**Cape Fear, ITV, 10.40pm**  
A psychopathic rapist is released from prison after 14 years and plots revenge on the defence attorney he blames for his imprisonment. Subjecting the lawyer and his family to a terrifying campaign of intimidation, he uses his knowledge of the law to stay untouchable. Martin Scorsese's thriller remake, starring Robert De Niro, Nick Nolte and Jessica Lange. (1991)

**I Love You, Man, BBC1, 11.50pm**  
As he prepares for his wedding, estate agent Peter realises there is something missing – a male friend, which he doesn't have, to be his best man. His quest for a suitable candidate leads him to laid-back, hard-drinking Sydney and the pair become inseparable buddies – to the horror of Peter's fiancée. Comedy, starring Paul Rudd and Jason Segel. (2009)

**(500) Days of Summer, Channel 4, 12.25am**  
A man looks back on his 500-day-long relationship with the woman he loves, remembering events in a random order. Romantic comedy, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zoëy Deschanel. (2009)

Honouring the best in British television

Can the TV Baffas outshine their cinematic counterpart? Well, one man adding a little movie glamour to the proceedings is Benedict Cumberbatch, who is now a force to be reckoned with in Hollywood following his Oscar nomination for playing Alan Turing in The Imitation Game.

He's since received his third Leading Actor Bafta nod (and sixth in total) for the role that first gained him international recognition – that of enigmatic super-detective Holmes in Sherlock, the modern reworking of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous tales.

He's up against James Nesbitt for The Missing, and two extraordinary performances as real-life people from Toby Jones and Jason Watkins. Watkins was outstanding in The Lost Honour of Christopher Jeffries, but the winner should be Jones, whose take on down and football mascot Neil Baldwin in Marvellous was arguably the TV highlight of 2014.

The Leading Actress category will be very hotly contested, with first-time nominee Georgina Campbell in the running for surprise hit Murdered by

My Boyfriend, alongside Keeley Hawes for Line of Duty.

But then the big guns come out. Sheridan Smith has been hotly tipped for her performance in Cilla, which was great – until you realise she didn't look or sound like Cilla Black, the person she was playing.

So, if there's any justice, it will be Sarah Lancashire who wins for her career-best turn in Happy Valley, which would also be her second win in as many years – in 2014 she took home the Supporting Actress trophy for her work in Last Tango in Halifax.

Other luminaries in the running include the ceremony's host, Graham Norton, for his BBC chat show, as well as Matt Berry (Toast of London), Hugh Bonneville (W1A), Claudia Winkleman (Strictly Come Dancing) and Stephen Rea (The Honourable Woman).

Watch out too for Olivia Colman, who is nominated for the fourth consecutive year, this time in the Female Performance in a Comedy Programme for Rev.

We do, however, already know the identity of one winner. The name 'Jon

Snow' may now be synonymous with a Game of Thrones character, but the real Jon Snow, ie the Channel 4 newsreader who has spent the past 40 years covering globally important stories, will receive the Bafta Fellowship.

This grand award has previously been handed to the likes of Julie Walters, Michael Palin and David Attenborough, so Snow is in great company.

"I am genuinely overwhelmed by the honour of being awarded a Bafta Fellowship," says Snow. "There is no greater recognition than that of one's own industry."

"I thought at first Bafta must have been the wrong Snow... There are several of my cousins they could have chosen. I'm genuinely looking forward to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded I've finally done something cool!"

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV's great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but try not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty handed.



The British Academy Television Awards, Sunday, BBC1, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**Episodes BBC2, 10pm**  
Showtime's TV-industry satire returns for a fourth season, and with their hopes of a new life overseas now on the back burner, Sean (Stephen Mangan) and Beverly (Tamsin Greig) are dragged back to Hollywood to make six more episodes of the previously cancelled Pucks. It's risen, like Jesus. If Jesus was a sitcom that no one watched,' says the show's leading actress Morning Randolph (Mircea Monroe). Meanwhile, Matt (Matt LeBlanc) attends a funeral and discovers that the deceased – the man who looked after his money – had been scamming him for years, to the tune of 32 million dollars, no less. Finally, Carol (Kathleen Rose Perkins) lobbies to run the network after discovering the identity of her new boss.

**TUESDAY**  
**Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch Channel 5, 9pm**  
It's back – and it's going to be a blast. As if sharing a house with a group of complete strangers, all with very ébig personalities, wasn't tricky enough, this year we're promised that the reality show is going to be extra mischievous, as the contestants place their past, present and future in Big Brother's hands. In

fact, BB is going to start to playing with the very concept of time itself – and not just by making viewers think they'll just tune in for a few minutes to check out the latest intake, only to later realise they've been gripped for two hours. Emma Willis takes charge this evening, as she introduces us to Big Brother's class of 2015, and also lets us have a good look around the house, which has had a Mad Men-inspired 1960s makeover.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Inspector George Gently BBC1, 8pm**  
Last week, Gently investigated a case that looked like suicide, but turned out to be murder. This week, he does the same thing again although, thankfully, the circumstances are very different. This time, the body is that of Scott Parker, who is found lying on a rubbish pile under the Tyne Bridge, shortly after celebrating his 40th birthday with his best friends Petey and Michael. All Scott had on him was a pawn broker note, a betting slip and the number for Gwendolyn Howard. It turns out he had been



Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch, Tuesday, Channel 5, 9pm

pawning items under a false name and was in serious debt – but who is Gwendolyn, and does she hold the key to the mystery? Watch out for a guest appearance by Jim Moir, aka Vic Reeves.

**The World's Most Expensive Food Channel 4, 8pm**  
Like many cities, London is a place of opposites. There are poverty-stricken estates peppered across its expanse, but there are also areas of great wealth too. In fact, it's been estimated that the capital is now home to more billionaires than any other city on the planet. These mega-rich folk may live the kind of lifestyles the rest of us can only dream about, we all have at least one thing in common with them – the need to eat. But what do those with untold millions enjoy? We're guessing that nipping down to their local supermarket isn't on their daily agenda. This two-part programme aims to lift the lid on their habits, as well as offering an insight into the catering companies trying to keep up with their changing appetites.

**THURSDAY**  
**Fraud Squad ITV, 9pm**  
The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an army of 'mules' to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ringleader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

**FRIDAY**  
**Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites BBC2, 8pm**  
New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing goats cheese and shallot tarts with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – royal crab and cod fishcakes with tomato salsa.

£2 off  
a £12 spend at  
Poundland®  
for  
Every Reader  
Details in your  
Express & Star  
Saturday 16th May

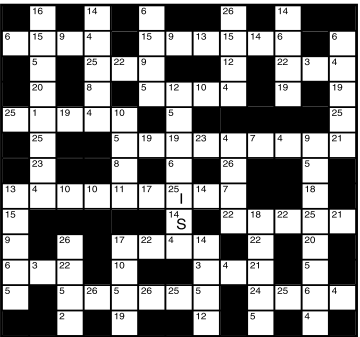
USE YOUR LOFT!  
Bison  
Loft Ladders  
Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. A "gas" strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.  
£395  
Special offer for limited time only starting from  
£249  
(incl VAT)  
Quote Ref PP  
Safety hand rail Unique to Bison  
Over 10,000 installations  
NEW: Long Safety Side Handles\*  
\*at extra cost  
We also fit loft flooring, lighting and roof windows.  
All major credit cards accepted  
theloftstairscompany  
The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 60, Atcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG  
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk  
Freephone 0800 389 1281  
or from a mobile 01743 761499

SALES - SPARES - REPAIRS  
FRIDGE FREEZERS FROM £149  
WASHING MACHINES FROM £139  
DISHWASHERS FROM £179  
MASSIVE REFRIGERATION SALE NOW ON  
MUST END SOON!!!  
Larders from £89  
Cookers from £139  
Freezers from £99  
Dryers from £99  
Vacuums from £39  
Spinners from £99  
All items carry a 12 Month Guarantee  
Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm • Saturday 9.30am - 5pm  
A.A. DOMESTICS  
DOMESTIC APPLIANCES  
14 Hagley Road, Halesowen  
West Midlands B63 4RG  
Email: aadomestics22@yahoo.com  
Tel: 01384 413590 / 07981 398758  
VISA  
MasterCard



Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



SOLUTIONS TO NO. 322:  
M S G H T O D N X R A K L  
U Z C J V Y W I P B F Q E

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

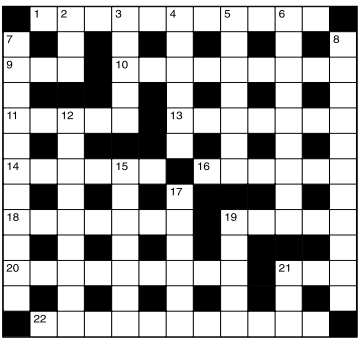
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Not in top form? (6-5)
- 9. Also the last of 20 (3)
- 10. Capital charges are inappropriate here (5-4)
- 11. Took measured steps, perhaps (5)
- 13. Sleep it off when letter comes (7)
- 14. Very small amount of time (6)
- 16. Worse than Cinderella's sisters? (6)
- 18. Steeped as far down as possible (7)
- 19. Sounds a tiny thing, but the power's there! (5)
- 20. Inferior worker is sly (9)
- 21. Nothing indicated as the end-product also (3)
- 22. There are no factors in production of the best anaesthetic, apparently (5,6)

Down

- 2. The last of 12 (3)
- 3. Took steps to ease friction.... (5)
- 4. ....and we'd begun to appear.... (6)
- 5. ....having fun, like the early-rising bird (7)
- 6. Begin with fish - it's breath-taking (9)
- 7. Successful spiritualist avoids extremes (5,6)
- 8. Piercing a rotten pine (11)
- 12. Study offer made by competitor (9)
- 15. It is to be proved that article needs more changes (7)
- 17. This melody takes considerable effort (6)
- 19. She is absolutely crazy before noon! (5)
- 21. Where part of the foot points? (3)



Quick Clues:

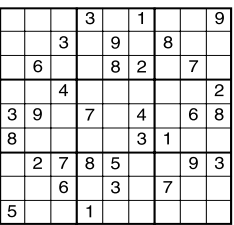
Across

- 1. Dogmatic (11)
- 9. Encountered (3)
- 10. Looker-on (9)
- 11. Adorn (5)
- 12. Watch (7)
- 14. Grand (6)
- 16. Small flag (6)
- 18. Abhors (7)
- 19. Evade (5)
- 21. A fuel (3)
- 22. Eternal (5-6)

Down

- 2. Place (3)
- 3. Disagreeable (5)
- 4. Fairy king (6)
- 5. Performer (7)
- 6. Installed as bishop (9)
- 7. Diplomats (11)
- 8. Unceremonious (4,3,4)
- 12. Respectable (9)
- 15. Determine (7)
- 17. Desire (6)
- 19. Ate dinner (5)
- 21. Fire-arm (3)

Sudoku



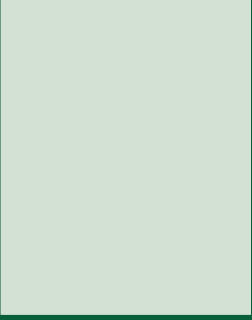
Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	3	1	9	2	5	6	8	4
8	5	6	7	3	4	9	2	1
2	9	4	6	8	1	3	7	5
1	7	5	8	9	3	2	4	6
3	2	9	4	5	6	1	7	8
6	4	8	1	7	2	3	9	5
4	6	3	2	1	8	7	5	9
5	1	7	3	4	9	8	6	2
9	8	2	5	6	7	4	1	3

No. 322 CROSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Bizarre; 7 Forms; 9 First; 10 Cabinet; 12 Information; 14 Saintliness; 18 Flogged; 19 Brief; 21 Quits; 22 Goliath. Down: 1 Rigid; 2 Pass on; 3 Err; 4 Soviet; 5 Emperor; 8 Raiment; 11 Coalmen; 13 Fall out; 15 Nights; 16 Sortie; 17 Delta; 20 Hoe. QUICK - Across: 6 Recount; 7 Quote; 9 Haste; 10 Retinue; 12 Fraudulence; 14 Hairdresser; 18 Proceed; 19 Comic; 21 Scorn; 22 Fought. Down: 1 Delay; 2 Poster; 3 Ink; 4 Futile; 5 Staunch; 8 Request; 11 Quarrel; 13 Caprice; 15 Record; 16 Exodus; 17 Right; 20 Art.

Thinking space



Solutions to 317: Quiz: 1 Alexander Fleming; 2 Scotland; 3 Mad Dog; 4 Patricia Highsmith; 5 Buzzard; 6 Ghana; 7 Alberto Tomba; 8 Graham Greene; 9 River Medway; 10 Gustav Mahler.

Niner: LIFEBOATS Crossword: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Route; 8 Tangles; 9 Affront; 10 Lagos; 12 High street; 15 Treble clef; 18 Louis; 19 Optical; 21 Anemone; 22 Plumb. Down: 1 Ornamental; 2 Ruffs; 3 Nero; 4 Stitch; 5 Unclothe; 6 Flagged; 11 Set of clubs; 13 Illusion; 14 Refuses; 16 Crowded; 17 Scout; 20 Type. QUICK - Across: 7 Canon; 8 Torment; 9 October; 10 Sweet; 12 Asseverate; 15 Accentuate; 18 Tress; 19 Kindred; 21 Unclean; 22 Adieu. Down: 1 Accountant; 2 Unite; 3 Knob; 4 Starve; 5 Prospect; 6 General; 11 Tremendous; 13 Sinister; 14 Screech; 16 Unkind; 17 Train; 20 Neat.

Codeword: 1=R, 2=W, 3=H, 4=I, 5=E, 6=D, 7=V, 8=G, 9=K, 10=P, 11=T, 12=X, 13=Y, 14=M, 15=O, 16=C, 17=Q, 18=F, 19=N, 20=A, 21=B, 22=U, 23=Z, 24=L, 25=J, 26=S.

Sudoku:

7	9	6	3	5	4	2	8	1
1	3	2	7	9	8	6	4	5
4	5	8	1	2	6	7	9	3
6	4	3	8	1	5	9	2	7
5	7	1	2	6	9	4	3	8
2	8	9	4	7	3	1	5	6
3	1	5	9	7	3	8	6	2
8	2	4	6	3	1	5	7	9
9	6	7	5	8	2	3	1	4

Quiz

- 1. In Greek mythology who was the sister and wife of Zeus?
- 2. When did Queen Victoria succeed to the throne?
- 3. Jomo Kenyatta was prime minister of which country?
- 4. Who wrote the opera Fidelio?
- 5. How many gills are in one pint?
- 6. In which American state is Fort Knox?
- 7. Which element has the symbol A?
- 8. Who wrote the Palliser novels?
- 9. What was the first James Bond film?
- 10. Which Shakespeare play features the character Polonius?

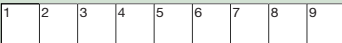
Solutions to no. 322:

Quiz: 1 Cosa Nostra; 2 Thomas Gray; 3 Richard Wagner; 4 Delaware; 5 Harold Macmillan; 6 Augustus; 7 14th; 8 Balaclava; 9 A Study in Scarlet; 10 Double bass. Niner: FORESIGHT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

145 gives a rodent,  
3678 gives a wild animal,  
9243 gives an aquatic mammal.



star★extraTRAVEL London Theatre Breaks

Choose your show, price band\* and how you want to travel

Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days  
Departures most weekends

Saturday Night Theatre from £159.<sup>95</sup>

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday morning/early afternoon from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening to give plenty of free time for shopping and sightseeing.

Theatre Showstopper from £229.<sup>95</sup>

This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday morning returning on the Sunday afternoon/early evening.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days  
Selected weekend departures

Saturday Night from £139.<sup>95</sup>

Theatre Weekend with Dinner from £149.<sup>95</sup>

Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal. The Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance.

Both breaks include a theatre ticket, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel plus full English breakfast.

Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details. Single rooms subject to availability – supplements apply.

Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)

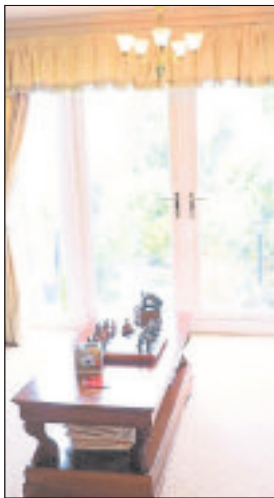


For a theatre brochure please call the promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to [expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions



# Stylish Sedgley home is priced at £294,950



**HOLLY Tree Cottage in Sandyfields Road, Sedgley is a residence of style and elegance. It is for sale through Rodens at £294,950.**

With double glazing and gas central heating, it has a lounge with fireplace, sitting room with French doors to the garden, study, dining room, kitchen with modern units, utility, three bedrooms (one with a fitted wardrobe), a bathroom with a white suite including a free-standing roll top bath and contemporary shower cubicle.

Contact Rodens on 01902 881188 or visit [www.rodenstagates.com](http://www.rodenstagates.com) website.



# Village cottage features include sun trap at back



**THIS delightful two-bedroomed cottage in High Street, Belbroughton, near Stourbridge, is directly opposite the village green in a conservation area.**

It is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £229,500.

With gas central heating and double glazing, the property has two bedrooms, a stylish re-fitted shower room and lounge with a multi-fuel stove, tiled floor an open plan dining kitchen area with cream units, dishwasher, oven, hob, fridge/freezer and washer/dryer.

The courtyard garden is decorated with pots and is a lovely place to sit in the sun.

For further information contact The Lee Shaw Partnership on 01562 888111 or visit [www.leeshaw.com](http://www.leeshaw.com) website.



## Hicks Hadley

[hickshadley.com](http://hickshadley.com)  
0121 585 6667

Halesowen Office Lettings & Property Management



**BIRMINGHAM, Orion Building £800 pcm+Fees**  
A fantastic opportunity to rent a fully furnished apartment in the heart of Birmingham City Centre. This 1 bed modern property overlooking the Mailbox features open plan living with 24 hour concierge service and secure underground parking (permit required), double glazed and electric heating. Viewings highly recommended. EPC: C



**BRIERLEY HILL, Amblecote Road £695 pcm+Fees**  
Fully refurbished to a very high standard is this traditional 3 bedroom semi-detached house, comprising of: entrance hall, large living room/dining area, fitted kitchen, large rear garden, 3 good size bedrooms, white bathroom suite with shower. Available Now. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Melbourne Road £650 pcm+Fees**  
A wonderfully presented end terrace property close to Halesowen Town Centre and Halesowen College. This 3 bedroom property features 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with wooden work surfaces, downstairs bathroom with separate shower, double glazing, gas central heating, rear garden, and on road parking. Viewings highly recommended to appreciate property. EPC: TBC



**OLDBURY, Mehdi Road £625 pcm+Fees**  
Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, is this modern unfurnished 3 storey townhouse, comprising of: 3 bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, large lounge, fitted kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing, downstairs wc, house bathroom with shower, allocated parking space, small rear garden. EPC: C



**ROWLEY REGIS, Halesowen Street £575 pcm+Fees**  
An unfurnished end terraced property within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre. This lovely house features a spacious living room, fitted kitchen, conservatory, downstairs wc, 2 double bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, gas central heating, double glazing, 1 parking space only, rear garden. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Linnet Close £575 pcm+Fees**  
Unfurnished semi detached house set in popular cul-de-sac location. Two bedrooms, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, garage and driveway parking, rear garden. EPC: D



**WORDSLEY, John Street £575 pcm+Fees**  
A stunning 3 bedroom terrace property featuring a new upstairs bathroom and a new kitchen with patio doors leading into the garden. Two reception rooms and new windows and carpets throughout complete the property. This is a superb family home which offers a long term rental. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Holt Road £550 pcm+Fees**  
A nicely presented refurbished mid terraced home, close to local shops. Featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with oven/hob, downstairs bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, small rear gardens, on road parking. Available Now EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Fatherless Barn Crescent £550 pcm+Fees**  
An unfurnished 3 bedroom semi detached family home within the catchment area for Colley Lane Primary School and the number 9 bus. Featuring an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen & utility, 3 good size bedrooms & upstairs walk in shower room. Large rear garden & driveway. Available Now. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Stour Close £550 pcm+Fees**  
Beautifully presented and in a quiet location. This fantastic top floor apartment in a well sought after location, features 2 double bedrooms, modern kitchen with white goods, bathroom with shower, loft access, gas heating, double glazing, allocated parking, communal gardens and garage. Well worth a viewing! EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Hawne Court £525 pcm+Fees**  
Located in a quiet, desirable neighbourhood is this well kept ground floor apartment situated at the end of a peaceful cul-de-sac, offering a spacious living room, modern fitted kitchen with built-in appliances, 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, bathroom with fitted shower, allocated parking space with garage. EPC: D



**BRIERLEY HILL, Talbot Street £495 pcm+Fees**  
Fully refurbished end terrace house close to Brierley Hill town centre. This lovely property has new fitted kitchen with oven/hob, rear lounge, long rear garden, 2 bedrooms, white bathroom with shower, newly fitted central heating with new boiler. Available now. EPC: TBC



**CRADLEY HEATH, King Street £475 pcm+Fees**  
Located in the heart of Old Hill. Ideally situated for local shops, buses and train links. A 1st floor modern apartment which comprises of 2 bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, double glazing, electric heating, bathroom with shower, allocated parking space. EPC: C



**BRIERLEY HILL, Little John Street £475 pcm+Fees**  
Located within walking distance to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill. This unfurnished modern end terrace house features 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, fitted kitchen, downstairs wc, spacious living room, bathroom with shower, rear garden, off road parking for 2 cars. EPC: C. LANDLORD REQUIRES 2 MONTHS DEPOSIT AND A FAMILY MEMBER TO BE GUARANTOR



**ROWLEY REGIS, Cleat Hill Drive £475 pcm+Fees**  
Fully refurbished to a high specification. This 1st floor apartment has gas central heating, living/dining room, fitted kitchen with oven/hob, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, parking space. Spectacular views! Internal viewing needed to appreciate size & quality of accommodation. EPC: G



**HALESOWEN, Hamilton Avenue £475 pcm+Fees**  
Modern 1 bedroom ground floor flat, unfurnished or part furnished to suit with garage now available on the popular Abbeyfields Estate close to motorway links. Lounge with patio doors leading to small private garden, newly fitted kitchen with oven/hob, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, full double glazing. EPC: D



**ROWLEY REGIS, Hanover Road £450 pcm+Fees**  
A well presented modern 1st floor apartment offering open plan living. Featuring a fitted kitchen with breakfast bar and appliances, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower, electric heating. New carpets throughout, communal gardens, allocated parking to rear, electric heating & double glazing. Available now. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Belgrave Road £425 pcm+Fees**  
A large ground floor modern apartment within walking distance to Blackheath Town Centre and local buses. Featuring a spacious lounge, fitted kitchen with oven/hob, 1 double bedroom, newly fitted bathroom suite with shower. Gas central heating, small rear garden with private entrance. Available Now. EPC: TBC



**KIDDERMINSTER, Bewdley Road £425 pcm+Fees**  
A ground floor flat close to town centre & hospital comprising of: large living room, large double bedroom, fitted kitchen with oven/hob, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, full double glazing. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Stourbridge Road £400 pcm+Fees**  
An unfurnished mid terraced family home with modern fitted kitchen, 3 good size bedrooms, family bathroom with shower and on road parking. Ideally located close to shops and for the number 9 bus route. EPC: G



**LYE, High Street £375 pcm+Fees**  
Fully refurbished in the centre of Lye. This spacious 2nd floor apartment features a lovely lounge, 1 double bedroom, bathroom, modern and contemporary kitchen/ diner, electric heating, double glazing, on road parking. Available now. EPC: E



# Local Specialists



## Appliance Repairs

### Washing Machine Repairs and all White Goods

"Don't go and buy a new one, get it repaired..."

**AA DOMESTICS**  
14 Hagley Road, Halesowen  
**01384 413590**  
**07981 398758**



## Carpentry

### CARPENTRY SERVICES

**ROBERT CHESNEY**  
CARPENTRY / JOINERY

KITCHEN FITTING SPECIALIST  
ALL CARPENTRY WORKS  
ROOFS / DOORS / LOCKS  
DECKING SPECIALIST  
CALL NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE  
0121 421 6740  
07779746939



## Decorating

### PAINTER & DECORATOR

Professional and reliable  
Fully insured  
O.A.P Discounts  
For a free quote call Carl  
0121 561 1881  
or 07532 200591



### HALESOWEN DECORATORS

Painters & Decorators  
**OAP DISCOUNT AVAILABLE**  
10% OFF with this advert  
Residential and Commercial work undertaken  
CALL 07860 206713  
0121 602 0966

## Electricians

### Starkey Electrical Ltd

For all your electrical needs in the home, garden, driveway or office/retail premises  
• Landlord Certification • Fuse board replacements  
• Rewiring • Energy saving LED Lighting • Emergency call out - 7 days a week • Experienced electricians NICEIC regulated • Competitive Prices/FREE quotations  
[www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk](http://www.starkeyelectrical.co.uk)  
OFFICE: 0121 423 3883 0844 561 7244  
07967 650567 (24 hour call outs)



## Building Plans

### SP BUILDING DESIGNS

Plans prepared for building projects both commercial and domestic

For free advice call  
**01384 413206**  
**07983 131225**

## Blinds & Curtains

### Blinds4Less

Leaving a good impression!

Choose From a fantastic range!  
-Pleated -Venetians  
-Romans -Curtains  
-Verticals -Awnings  
-Rollers -Shutters

New 3 Year Guarantee on Blinds and up to 10 Year Guarantee on Shutters

Give us a try before you buy!  
Contact us on  
0121 270 6104  
07989 588728  
[Blinds4lessdirect.com](http://Blinds4lessdirect.com)

## SM CARPENTRY & BUILDING

- Extensions/Canopy's
- loft conversions
- Bathroom and Kitchen Refurbs
- Fitted Bedrooms/Home Offices
- All Types Of Plasterings
- General Carpentry

CALL: 0121 601 7727 • 07879 681591

## Computers

### NEED ADVICE ON COMPUTING?

- All PC Problems Resolved • Software & Hardware Installed
- Virus & Spyware Removed • PC Health Checks
- Home Network Implemented • Internet Connections Installed

DON'T BE FOOLED INTO THINKING YOU NEED A NEW PC  
Call: 0121 422 7646 or 07970 846 552  
**JUDRAP PC SUPPORT**  
email: [support@judrap.com](mailto:support@judrap.com) [www.judrap.com](http://www.judrap.com)

## Decorating

### HARRISONS PAINTING & DECORATING

Commercial & Residential  
Work Undertaken

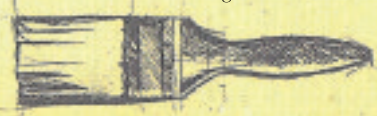
- Painting
- Paperhanging
- Tiling
- Flooring
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms

Call Nick: 07792865975

[nick@harrisonsdecoratingservices.co.uk](mailto:nick@harrisonsdecoratingservices.co.uk)

Fully Insured - Quality Finishing - Reasonable Rates

[www.harrisonsdecoratingservices.co.uk](http://www.harrisonsdecoratingservices.co.uk)



## Driveways

### DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac  
Drives • Paths • Patios  
Slabbing • Red Tarmac  
Car Parks

5 Year Guarantee On All Work

Free Quotations and Advice  
Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190  
[www.discountdriveways.co.uk](http://www.discountdriveways.co.uk)



## Double Glazing

### Misted Sealed Units? Contact us for a free quote!

Tel 01384 566100

Email: [quotations@blackcountryglazing.com](mailto:quotations@blackcountryglazing.com)

BLACK COUNTRY GLAZING Est 1987



### THE WINDOW DOCTOR

- Double glazing repairs
- Steamed up units
- Broken door locks
- Patio rollers

Units Fitted from £25

Telephone Michael 01384 356251

## Electricians

### MB electric

All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken  
Home rewiring from £800  
For a high quality local service call:  
0121 3690311  
07939 503905  
[mbelectric.co.uk](http://mbelectric.co.uk)

### CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands  
Specialists in Patios, Driveways, Paths, Fencing, Turfing, Decking and Landscaping  
Call now for a FREE QUOTE  
01902 562600 or 07539 887144

## Builders



Do you need to promote your building services?

Please call

**01902 319590**  
**01902 319577**

### D H Household Maintenance

Decking to DIY  
Plastering to Plumbing  
All areas covered  
**0121 422 8594**  
**07985 548466**

## Carpentry

### DAVID ADAMS CARPENTRY

Doors, loft conversions, laminate flooring, UPVC windows & doors

**FREE QUOTATIONS**

30 years experience

**0121 602 1450**  
**07885 417812**

### Local Specialists



### A.S. Painter & Decorator

Interior & Exterior  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Cleanliness Assured

Call:  
**07730 477564**

### A1 DECORATING services. City & Guilds, no job too small. Free quotes, Tel: 07903 820418

**Summer Deal!!!**  
Is your fuseboard in need of an upgrade?  
Does your house wiring need an MOT?  
JS Quality Electrical Services Ltd are offering a Summer Deal not to be missed on all new fuseboard upgrades, we only supply and fit the latest and safest fuseboards along with a Part P Electrical Installation Certificate. Also included with the fuseboard change is a full MOT of your entire house wiring. Any electrical work undertaken  
Call us today on  
**0121 531 6884 or 07753 393562**  
for more information  
[www.jsqualityelectrical.co.uk](http://www.jsqualityelectrical.co.uk)  
[jselectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jselectricalservices@hotmail.co.uk)

## ELECTRICIAN

Fully guaranteed work  
Honest reliable service

### ANT ELECTRIC

Ring Tony or Julie on  
**07974 428 603**  
**KEEP IT LOCAL**  
'No Job Too Small'

### A M ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Domestic, Commercial, Industrial  
Full And Part Rewires / Fuse Boards  
Upgrades / Shower / Extra Sockets  
PAT Testing / Safety Reports  
CCTV / Burglar Alarms  
**Free Quotes And Advice Call**  
**0121 369 2370**  
**07785 781652**

## Fencing

### LBT Fencing

All types of quality fencing supplied & erected  
Plus decking, slabbing & block paving  
**FREE QUOTES**  
Tel: 0121 585 9992 or 07884 344616  
[www.lbtfencing.co.uk](http://www.lbtfencing.co.uk)

### Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken  
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling  
• Turfing • Garden Clearance  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products  
eg: Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards  
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken  
Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)  
Call Steve on  
**01384 242891 or 07970 300586**

## Gardening

### SEDGLEY TREE CARE

Professional Tree Surgeon  
All aspects of tree work undertaken  
• TREE REMOVAL  
• CROWN REDUCTION  
• STUMP GRINDING  
• HEDGE TRIMMING  
ALL WASTE REMOVED  
NPTC QUALIFIED  
**07746813358 or 01902 659 692**  
**FOR A FREE QUOTE**

## Fascias Soffits & Guttering

### Roberts Guttering Services

**20% Discount**  
Local Specialists  
Dry Verge Units Fitted  
For All aspects of cleaning & repair call  
Robert for a  
FREE quote on  
**07767869792**  
We Fit UPVC Soffits & Fascias



Please call now to promote your services

Please call  
**01902 319590**  
**01902 319577**

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

**1**

Call us on...  
**01902 319590**

**2**

E-mail us at...  
[lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk)

**3**

Post to...  
Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



# Local Specialists

## Gardening

### ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

\*Tree Surgeon Specialist \*Stump Grinding/Root Removal  
\*Hedges Pruned/Shaped \*Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes  
\*Fencing \*Turfing \*Concreting \*Driveways & Patios  
\*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation  
**24/7 365 emergency callout service**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,  
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

### SWIFT LANDSCAPES

FRIENDLY & RELIABLE SERVICE  
 > PATIOS > GARDEN CLEARANCE  
 > BLOCK PAVING > FENCING  
 > BRICKWORK > DECKING  
 > DRIVEWAYS > TURFING  
 FREE QUOTES:  
**0121 602 5943 / 07818 119 453**  
[www.swiftlandscapes.co.uk](http://www.swiftlandscapes.co.uk)

**LINDOPS LANDSCAPES**  
 All Landscape Work Undertaken  
 No Job Too Small or Too Big  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**  
 All aspects of Tree Surgery,  
 Block Paving, Fencing, etc  
 Est. 25 Years  
 Ex. Botanical Gardener  
**0121-421 2858**  
**07583 - 748872**  
 10% OFF until 30th April 2015

### R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years  
**Gardening & Landscaping Services**  
 Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting  
 • Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing  
 • Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared  
**FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS**  
**FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:**  
**07970 576 638 • 01334 569 143**  
[www.ragardenservices.net](http://www.ragardenservices.net)

### Dal's Gardening & Tree Services

• A Good reliable service,  
 • A Name you can trust  
 • All areas covered  
 So don't delay phone today  
 for a **FREE** quotation  
**07407 622855**

### R & S Gardens

• All garden work undertaken  
 • Hedges and lawns cut  
 • General tidy and rubbish removed  
 • Garden landscaping and fencing work  
**Telephone: 07851 323303**

## Gas and Boiler Services

### To promote your Gas & Boiler Service

Please call  
**01902 319590**  
**01902 319577**

## Garage Doors

### DB GARAGE DOORS

- Supply
- Repair
- Up and Over
- Side Hinged
- Made to measure
- FREE Survey & Quotation
- Install
- Roller
- Sectional
- Remote Control Doors

[www.dbshutters.co.uk](http://www.dbshutters.co.uk)  
 Tel: 0121 422 1990 Mob: 07860 858378

## Interiors

**Elegant Stairs**  
 Quality Stairparts  
 supplied & fitted  
 by mature craftsman

For this and other carpentry  
 work phone **Bill** for a  
 Free Estimate/Quote on  
**0121 533 9339**  
 or **07505 807686**

### Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section  
 offers you a wide range  
 of local businesses  
 and tradesman to deal  
 with your needs and  
 requirements.

## MOT's

**MOT**  
**£27.99**  
 with this advert  
**FREE RE-TEST**  
 Green Garage, Unit 2a Station Road,  
 (rear of Gold Cue Snooker Club), Blackheath, B65 0LJ  
**0121 559 6001** MOT

## Oven Cleaning

### For a friendly local independent oven cleaning service

## CLEANOVEN

We clean all types of domestic  
 ovens, cookers, traditional stoves,  
 hobs, extractors and microwaves  
*Call us for a FREE quote*  
**Tel: 01384 393168**  
 Mobile Anytime: 07713 163060

## Property Maintenance

### INSIDE OUT SERVICES

ALL ASPECTS OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE  
 • BRICKWORK • BLOCK PAVING CLEANING  
 • GUTTERING • FELT ROOFING • POINTING UP  
 • EXTERIOR PAINTING DECORATING  
 • ELECTRICAL WORK • LANDSCAPING  
 • NO JOB TOO SMALL

Phone George  
**0121 602 3065 07974 538649**

## Property Maintenance

### ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD

- ★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating
- ★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Rendering
- ★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
- ★ Roof Repairs & Re-pointing
- ★ Pressure washing
- ★ Plus Much More....

**CALL NOW FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**  
 AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED,  
 PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

## Plastering

**DH PLASTERERS**  
 FROM boarding,  
 skimming, patching  
 and repairs TO  
 complete rooms  
**GUARANTEED  
 LOWEST PRICES**  
**0121 422 8594 or  
 07985 548466**

**K S SERVICES**  
 All types of General Repairs  
 to your home and garden  
 Also interior and exterior  
 decorating  
 Local Friendly Service  
**0121 532 4861**  
 No Job Too Small

**Plasterer?**  
 Need to promote your  
 business, please call  
**01902 319590 01902 319577**

### C.A. Plastering

For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on  
 plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming  
 and artex covering. Quality rendering and terralining.  
*No job too small* **07538 718264**

## Plumbing & Heating

### Gas Heating Services

**130 Hagley Road (Shop 6),  
 Halesowen B63 1DY**

- Central Heating
- Gas Fitting
- Plumbing
- Gas Appliance Servicing
- Boiler Maintenance & Repairs
- Specialists in Combination Boilers
- Fully Trained Engineers
- Family Run Business



### FREE QUOTES

VISA MasterCard Maestro safe

**Call us today for fast, friendly advice**  
**Office: 0121 503 0066**  
**www.gassafe1.com**

**KEN PERRY**  
 PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER  
 Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing  
 and Immersion Heaters,  
 Multi Point Water Heaters,  
 Landlord's Gas Certificates,  
 Boilers changed  
 Guild of Master Craftsmen  
 Gas Safe Registered  
**STOURBRIDGE 392284**

### Local Specialists



## Plumbing & Heating

### EDM HEATING & PLUMBING

- REPAIRS • INSTALLATION • SERVICE
- LANDLORD SAFETY CERTIFICATES
- NO CALL OUT CHARGE

**20% ELDERLY DISCOUNT**  
**CALL SHAUN**  
**07850 951346**  
[edmheatingandplumbing@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:edmheatingandplumbing@hotmail.co.uk)

### R.S PLUMBING AND HEATING

**All General Plumbing Undertaken**  
 • Bathrooms Suites  
 • Radiators / Tanks / Pumps Fitted  
 • Outside Taps Fitted  
 • Leaks Repaired  
 • PipeWork Alterations • Local Friendly Service  
[www.rsplumbing-halesowen.co.uk](http://www.rsplumbing-halesowen.co.uk)  
**Call Richard: 07902 557 496**

### HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING

(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)  
**iphe** All installations and repairs **EST 1994**  
**Supply and fit or fit only**  
 TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER  
 No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes  
**Tel: Neil 07968 786449 - 0121-601 6767**  
[www.household-plumbing.co.uk](http://www.household-plumbing.co.uk)

### Knight Gas Heating & Plumbing

Central Heating/Boilers  
 Fires and Cookers  
 Installation and Repair  
 All Plumbing Work  
 Landlords certificate  
**FREE QUOTES**  
**Call Gary on**  
**0121 550 3424 or**  
**07715 082113**

### SUPERWARM HEATING

Specialists in replacing  
 Boilers, Power Flushing Systems, Worcester  
 Bosch, Baxi & Vaillant accredited Installer  
**30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
**Ex British Gas**  
 Call Eddie  
**07976 755441**  
**0121 544 8427**

## Roofing

### ALL WEATHER ROOFING

Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat  
 Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges,  
 Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding  
**FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE**  
 Over 30 years experience  
**0121 420 1582**  
**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**  
 Mobile Number: 07947 839451  
[allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk](http://allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk)  
[allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com](mailto:allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com)

**To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...**

**1**

Call us on...  
**01902 319590**

**2**

E-mail us at...  
**[lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:lisa.dandy@expressandstar.co.uk)**

**3**

Post to...  
**Lisa Dandy, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
 Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB**



# Local Specialists



## Roofing

**Services**  
Fast and friendly service from a family run business, with over 10 years' experience  
**SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE,**  
fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, uPVC, fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work, pointing and storm damage  
no job too big or too small  
For a free quote call  
**0121 423 4602 or 07841 046 126**  
Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

## Specialists

**DRIVES • PATHS • PATIOS • COBBLES**  
**JET WASHING SERVICE**  
**FINE-LINE PAVING**  
(MIDLANDS) LTD.  
CONTACT ANDY OR GRAHAM NOW  
FOR A FREE, NO OBLIGATION QUOTE  
**(01384) 869605**  
**07950 659668 / 07754 676336**  
ALL BRICKWORK & GROUNDWORK UNDERTAKEN  
ALL WORK GUARANTEED  
**10% off**  
with this ad  
**www.fine-linepaving.co.uk**

**ALL SIZES**  
**ALL AREAS**  
**BEST PRICES**  
All Size Skips available for immediate delivery  
**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
**SCRAP CARS**  
removed for **FREE**  
**07920 885774**  
**01384 482542**  
**MT SKIPS**  
if fill 'em  
We mt 'em

## Wednesbury Kitchens

- Kitchen and Bathroom Installation
  - Building Works
  - Extensions • Plastering
  - Tiling • Carpentry
  - Painting and Decorating
  - Plumbing and Electrical Works
- 45 Lower High Street, Wednesbury**  
**0121 505 3334**

## Upholstery

**JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES**  
Specialists in Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques  
**CONTRACT & DOMESTIC**  
No Job Too Small  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Choice of patterns  
Quality Workmanship  
• Blackheath  
**0121 561 3977** daytime  
or 0121 561 2344 evenings after 6 pm

## Tiling

### I.C.A. TILING SERVICES

Walls, floors, bathrooms, kitchens and conservatories.  
Ceramic, porcelain, mosaics, slate, marble and all natural stone.  
FULL BATHROOM INSTALLATION AVAILABLE  
Quality workmanship at competitive prices.  
Fully insured. Portfolio available.  
For a free quote call Ian on  
**01384 412796 or 07890 894631**



### CERAMIC FLOOR & WALL TILING

Complete Bathrooms  
• Tiling and Plumbing  
• Kitchens and Conservatories  
All work undertaken  
For a free quote call Tony Baker  
**0121 422 4116 07961 604632**

## Window Specialists

**To advertise your business**  
Please call  
**01902 319590**  
**01902 319577**



# Local Specialists

## Women seeking men

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**SUSANNAH**, 48, curvy female, romantic, wants a cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341**

**SOPHIA** young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 1912 Box 413399**

**JEAN**, shy brunette with lots of love to give to the right man, seeks mature male to share relationship with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417285**

**ADVENTUROUS** sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 1913 Box 415301**

**GWEN** 38, large breasted, seeks Indian/Pakistani/Kurdish male for daytime fun. Can Travel/accom. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417233**

**ANNE**, mid 40's, cheerful busty curvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. **Tel No: 0906 500 1914 Box 410291**

**FUN** loving and independent hot woman looking for a sexy man for fun and maybe more. GSH and grey hair preferable! **Text only to Mailbox No: 4709317**

**DISCREET** lady, 42yrs wants to make you happy, come to me and let me do that for you. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 1915 Box 409901**

**KIND** caring lady early 30s, 5ft5, slim fair hair looking for long-term relationship in Leamington Spa area. **Text only to Mailbox No: 452727**

**TARA**, confident lady, long legs, long hair, seeks a sexy man or any age for daytime, no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4693 Box 414701**

**HAPPY**, fit, 77yr old widow N/S 5ft 3in, GSOH Loves travel, many interests. WLTm man with caravan/camper to share weekends/holidays. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4492014**

**LISA**, 31yr old petite bundle of fun looking for fun, easygoing, genuine guy. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417223**

**LINDA**, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male to share lonely evenings with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417211**

**FEMALE** seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417195**

**KATHERINE**, romantic, slim, feminine, loves to live life to the full, seeks adventurous outgoing male to appreciate and share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417091**

**SHERRIE** 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067**

**KAREN** 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

**KAREN** 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

**THELMA**, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

**FEMALE**, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. **Text only Mailbox No: 4655519**

**PRETTY** slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727**

**FEMALE**, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. **Text only Mailbox No: 4655519**

**HI** my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build. I am looking for a genuine male aged between 45 and 50 with gosh who enjoys going out. **Text only Mailbox No: 4362903**

**THELMA**, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

**DAWN** attractive, easygoing, and dazzing, WLTm well built male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

**MID** naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

**KAREN** medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

**KAREN** 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

**MARIA** gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416861**

**SUSAN** 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416801**

**STELLA** 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707**

**SLIM** fair haired lady, 5ft4 looking for a male 30 to 40 for ltr in warwickshire area. **Text only Mailbox No: 4527227**

## Men seeking women

**REMEMBER:** Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

**ADVENTUROUS** 34yr old, slim, dark hair, creative, likes music, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

**MALE**, 5' 7" slim, likes walks, cycling, eating out, seeks female 40 to 60 with similar interests. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4714619**

**MALE**, late 60s, 5' 6", loving, caring nature, seeks lady for LTR. Text me **Text only to Mailbox No: 4310699**

**SIMON** white male, looking for relationship with fun to be with, voluptuous, big black female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376863**

**DARREN** 42, likes pubs, clubs, drives, meals out, motocross, seeks female, 28-35. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389127**

**56YR** old widow seeking female, 50-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417201**

**55YR** old male, 5ft 6ins, dark hair, loyal, likes keep fit, seeks special female to light my fire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393333**

**SLIM** attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTm lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259**

**VICTOR**, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

visit us at: <http://dating.expressandstar.com>

CALL CHARGES\*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 090 calls cost £1.53 per min. plus network charges. Calls from Mobiles will be considerably higher. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT\*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 0781474042. For full T&Cs go to [www.localdates-terms.co.uk/](http://www.localdates-terms.co.uk/). REPLY BY TEXT\*: 80098/8990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed to receive 1 - 4 messages for each message you send. Service only available where phone icon show. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Some advertisers on this page come from our national database. To STOP text stop to 80098/8990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES\*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message to opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd. SW4 7BX. 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. Advertisers may come from our national database and from our pdc app.

# Making Friends



Try it...  
You'll love it!

YOUR local dating service run by the dating experts since 1990 ...  
REAL people REAL ads

## How to use your dating service

To place your own advert call:  
**0844 887 2293**  
and follow the simple instructions

## To Place your ad by text

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098 FREE** (Standard Network rates apply)

## Reply to members call:

**0906 500 3955**

call cost £1.53 per min  
Before you dial ! Have the adverts 6-digit box number written down and key-it-in promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

## For a quick service from your mobile call: 0906 500 5650

calls cost £1.50 per minute plus network charges

Or text.. **REPLY 26** (leave a space) then enter the six-digit box number given on their advert (leave a space) and then enter your message & send to **80098**, eg:  
**REPLY 26123456 hi get in touch...**  
then send to **80098**

Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

## Date ONLINE

YOU can now date online or via your mobile. Simply **VISIT** us at:  
<http://dating.expressandstar.com>

## Been left a message?

Pickup your replies on:  
**0906 500 3957**

calls cost £1.53 per min  
PLUS you can also listen to other members greetings on this number.

## CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm  
or email us at [support@jmediauk.co.uk](mailto:support@jmediauk.co.uk)

**PAUL** 63, seeks attractive younger lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417121**

**DAVE** genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

**MALE** 67, smoker, solvent, OHAC, seeking feminine, voluptuous woman, 60-65 for days out, weekends away, holidays and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417043**

**RICHARD** 44, single, happy go lucky, likes pubs, clubs, socialising, seeking female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416995**

**WIDOWER** 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

**NICK** 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881**

**SINGLE** dad, young 39, likes keep fit, walks, seeks slim lady, any age for fun, hopeful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395747**

**39YR** old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks female for fun times, maybe more. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395807**

**MARK** 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411335**

**SLIM** attractive man, tired of lonely nights, seeks genuine lady for friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410261**

**ALAN** 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

**DAVE** genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

CALL US NOW TO SAVE  
FREEPHONE 0800 146 540





## Index

- 1 Family
- 2 Leisure Time
- 3 Home & Services
- 4 Pets & Animals
- 5 Business & Farming
- 6 Property
- 7 Jobs
- 8 Motoring
- 9 Local Information
- 10 Personals

## Free Ads

**IT'S  
FREE  
IT'S  
EASY**

For items up to **£250**

**VISIT:**

[www.expressandstar.com/  
bookanad](http://www.expressandstar.com/bookanad)

Simply press the free ad icon.  
Sorry, no pets, guns or livestock.  
Private advertisers only.

## Place a paid for advert

**By Phone**  
**01902 317878**  
8.30am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri. Closed Sat/Sun.

**Online**  
[www.expressandstar.com/  
bookanad](http://www.expressandstar.com/bookanad)

**In person**  
At your local Express & Star Office.  
Cancel/amend, call before 3.00pm  
Monday - Friday for the next day's  
advertisement or also before 3.00pm  
Friday for Monday's advertisement.

### funeral directors

**N.E.DOWNING**  
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent  
family run  
Funeral Directors  
24 hour service  
Halesowen  
0121 422 2794  
[www.nedowning.co.uk](http://www.nedowning.co.uk)

### funeral services

**BIRMINGHAM ST MARY'S**  
your hospice  
Birmingham St Mary's Hospice  
welcomes collections to  
support our vital work.  
All donations will help us to  
care for more local families  
living with terminal illness  
For more information on how  
to support your hospice,  
please go to  
[www.birminghamhospice.org.uk](http://www.birminghamhospice.org.uk)  
or call  
**0121 472 1191**  
Reg. charity number: 503456

### lost & found

LOST - Female tabby cat since  
Wednesday 28th April Cosley  
area. 0121 520 3028.

## 1 Family

### elderly & disabled

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350  
can deliver, servicing available.  
Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384  
255019 / 07831 246292.

**SINGLE ELECTRIC** bed, £100.  
Electric armchair, £90. Bath chair,  
£70. 07950 418296.

**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned  
lifts from £799. New available.  
01952 405397/07897 273617

## 2 Leisure Time

### boats & water sports

**NARROWBOAT 60FT**  
2015, 4-berth, CH, log burner,  
12 volt and mains power, excellent  
condition, just completed,  
out of water for any inspection,  
Wombourne area.  
01384 288852 /  
07929 250737.

### caravans wanted

**All Caravans Wanted**  
Any Age or Condition  
\*CASH\* \*WAITING\*  
Immediate collection  
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

### caravans / motorhomes

**ABBEY VOGUE 520**  
4-berth, 2007, CRIS Reg, just  
serviced, motor mover,  
excellent condition.  
£7,300  
01384 288852 /  
07929 250737.

**AUTOSLEEPER 2010**, Nuevo  
Classic Motorhome, excellent condition,  
2berth, extras, £32,000.  
07879 842916 or 07951 848668.

### BARGAIN

**BLUEBIRD SUPER DELUXE**  
**STATIC CARAVAN**  
£3,300 ono  
01384 381479

35ft x 12ft, with large decking,  
CH, phone connections in all  
bedrooms, dogs allowed.  
Sited on private park in Mid  
Wales.  
Rent paid till 2016.  
£8,900.  
07944 384135.

### BARGAIN



**CITROEN RELAY**  
**MOTORHOME**

2 berth, new conversion, 12v  
fridge, blow air heating, cooker,  
LED lighting, microwave,  
toilet/shower, 70k, 57/2008,  
MoT till August, 2.2 Diesel.  
£16,495.  
07890 455148.

### LOOK

**COACHMAN PRESTIGE 460**  
2011, 2 berth, end bathroom,  
porch awning, alko wheel lock,  
motor mover, fully equipped to  
go, good condition, just been  
fully serviced, retiring from  
touring, no pets or smokers,  
one owner from new,  
£9,500 ono.  
0121 5507139.

### LOOK

**COMPASS CLERMONT SE**, 5  
berth, 18ft 2000, full awning, good  
condition, many extras, £3,400.  
07502 736762.

**ELLDISS 534 LUX**  
4 Berth Touring  
Caravan.  
Immaculate condition, top spec,  
end and bed, motor mover  
Two Awnings.  
Too many accessories to list.  
Hook up and go.  
£7950.00 ovno  
Telephone 01902 763157.

**ESTEREL FOLDING CARAVAN**  
4 berth, including full acrylic  
awning, fridge and spare wheel.  
1982 model, in good condition.  
Would benefit from TLC.  
£600.  
01902 846923.

**FAMILY CARAVAN**  
**FOR SALE**  
On a stunning Coastal Park in  
North Wales, 5 min walk to the Beach.  
Great facilities including:  
Large indoor heated Pool with Flume,  
£6,995 all bills paid for 2015 season.  
Finance Packages can be  
arranged with a small deposit.  
T & C apply.  
Call Jeff now on  
0794 6350 132

**FIAT DUCATO TALISMAN**  
Autosleeper; shower, portal oo,  
basin; gas cooker, grill, oven,  
fridge, gas heater, 3 berth, 11  
months MoT, 1.9L petrol  
engine, M reg - 1994  
£7,000 ono  
07876 498678

**FLURETTE TAMARIS 42T**  
Pop up roof, 3/4 berth, Full  
Length awning, Hitch Lock, Full  
Oven & Microwave, Fridge,  
central heating, Good Tyres,  
1.98mts high closed, no Pets  
£4,440.00  
01746710342

**RHYL CARAVANS** Near shops,  
beach, clubs, Small deposits. All  
amenities 01902 780135

**STATIC CARAVAN**  
28 x 10, 2 bedrooms, 2006  
model, in the Village Orelton,  
mid way between Leominster  
and Ludlow, site fees included  
till March 2016.  
Now reduced to £4,500.  
01902 677890/07804 645519.

**STATIC CARAVAN** 35x12, 6berth  
decking, quiet site Mid Wales, 2015  
site fees inc, 25thing pools, 20 mins  
to coast, £6000, 07973 319702.

**STATIC VAN** 6 berth, 2 bedrooms,  
private site on River Rheidol,  
fishing walking etc, 6 miles Aberystwyth,  
£4,250, 01562 753199.

**SWIFT CHALLENGER 500SE**  
2003, Cris reg, very good condition,  
full awning, wheel / hitch  
lock, etc, ready to go.  
01384 381479



**SWIFT CHALLENGER**  
**CARAVAN**

Excellent condition. Motor  
mover, 4 berth, end bath,  
dual fuel/cooker, fridge/freezer.  
Upholstery and carpets  
immaculate. Extras.

£4,950 ono.  
07944 538761.

**WILLERBY STATIC**  
**CARAVAN**

28 x 10, 2 bedrooms, On quiet  
park with two fishing pools in  
Mid Wales. Site fees included  
for 2015. Dog friendly.  
£4,500.  
Telephone 07922 351352

### fishing

**COARSE FISHING** Day and Night  
Ticket, 5 secluded, well developed  
pools, no bans, contents welcome.  
Lower Bromford Pools, Burwarton,  
Nr. Bridgnorth. 01584 823649.

### music shop

**KEYBOARD PLAYER**  
**REQUIRED**  
for 60's to 80's soft rock/pop  
We are based in Walsall.  
Telephone 01283716800

### holidays

### self catering holidays

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**  
Self Catering Holiday  
Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
[www.GoSomerset.co.uk](http://www.GoSomerset.co.uk)

**HOLIDAY IN JERSEY**  
[www.jerseyholidayapartment.co.uk](http://www.jerseyholidayapartment.co.uk)  
Sunset Peep

### what's on

### markets

**BIGGEST**  
**SUNDAY MARKET**  
**IN THE MIDLANDS**  
Bescot Stadium, Walsall FC  
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, 9.30-10.30  
07889 975701 All hand standing

## 3 Home & Services

### furniture

**ADJUSTABLE BED** 4ft,  
Furmanak MiBed with Leona  
Mattress. As new, never used,  
with 4 years guarantee. Cost  
new £1,099. Buyer to collect.  
Stourbridge area.  
£499  
01384 374396

**FOUR SEATER** Settee, chair, foot-  
stool, excellent condition, sage  
fabric, 1st to sit on will buy, reluctant  
sale, £500 ono. 07870 855358.

**THREE SEATER** and two seater  
brown velvet suite. £100. 07968  
444189.

**THREE SEATER SETTEE** and two  
chairs with lidded footstool, clean,  
cream brocade, good clean condition,  
£150 ono. 01902 608107.

### items for sale

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to ensure the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

### items wanted

**ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Jewellery • Duvall • Worcester  
Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins  
• Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys  
• Clocks • Paintings • All silver  
• Chinese items • Old ivory.  
• Military items  
Pre '47 silver coins All war medals etc  
**ANYTHING OLD &  
INTERESTING**  
01922 435066 or 07971 783206

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

### A BEST CASH PRICE

**FOR ALL RAILWAY**  
**COLLECTIONS**  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans  
/ Roundhouse / Graham / Farsh  
/ any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
0121 602 2569/07891 713547.  
thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com



### A BEST CASH PRICE PAID

**ALL TOYS CARS/LORRIES**  
**WANTED, ALL**  
Mamod/Wilescro/Bowmans  
All conditions  
\*Dinky\* \*Corgi\* \*Spot-on\*  
\*Britains and Airfix\*  
\*Mamod / Wilescro Steam  
Engines\* \*Star Wars Figures\*  
\*Scalextric Pre 1970's\*  
Tri-ang, cars or  
complete sets.  
\*Old Enamel Advertising  
Signs\* \*Railway collections\*  
\*Pre 1970 Annuals wanted,  
Beano, Dandy, etc\*  
01902 745598 / 07984 159571

**ALL BRASS / COPPER** ornaments/  
brassware, all descriptions, miners  
lamps, old medals, dinky, corgi  
toys. 01902 745598.  
**JAKES MUSEUM** buys all, antique,  
memorabilia, collectables, quirky  
unusual, old fire arms, etc. 07930  
949337 or 01384 484309.  
**MAMOD STEAM** Engines/ Trains  
wanted all conditions/ descriptions,  
Dinky Corgi Spot-on diecast vehicles.  
01902 745598.  
**SCALEXTRIC WANTED**, Tri-ang  
sets and cars, pre 1970's, any condition.  
All Dinky, Corgi, Spot-on.  
01902 745598.

### t.v. / home entertainment

### service

**AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS**  
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs,  
Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection.  
All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days.  
Digital aerials, Sky installation.  
Wall mounts & TV setups.  
**07850 330251**

### specialists at your service

### alarms/security

**PREMIER**  
**ALARMS**  
Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
Call: 0121 601 9791

### aerials

**AA DIGITAL**  
**AERIALS**  
1 aerial into 2 rooms £90  
1 aerial into 4 rooms £130  
**Work Guaranteed**  
**Same Day Service**  
**01902 858191**  
**01384 429166**  
VISA 01543 439095  
MasterCard 01922 716029  
07833 738857

### blinds

**AB-Blinds**  
**Super 6**  
6 Child Safe Verticals  
Fitted from only £169  
Call 0800 0347111  
[www.ab-blinds.co.uk](http://www.ab-blinds.co.uk)

### builders

**D & T BUILDERS** All Building Work  
Undertaken. Free Quotes.  
07516 751550 - 07463 849342

### building services

**DAVIES & SON BUILDERS**, Extensions,  
loft conversions, roofing,  
driveways. See us on "Rated  
People". Call 01902 579592 / 07837  
994465

### carpet & upholstery cleaning

**A CLASS CARPET &  
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices.  
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
Call Paul 07870 341089

### fencing

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
**\*SPECIAL OFFER\***  
10 Bays of quality fencing  
concrete posts, gravel boards &  
heavy duty panels supplied and fitted  
for **£695.00**  
[www.portwayfencing.com](http://www.portwayfencing.com)  
83 Portway Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7DZ  
Office: 0121 531 5250  
Mobile: 07866 137656

### gardening services

**GARDENS TIDIED** from £5 per  
garden, 25 years experience. Call  
01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

**H. GARDEN SERVICES**  
No Job Too Small! Free Quotes!  
Call Now 07752146554

### gas fitting

**NEW BOILERS** Hobs, cookers &  
fires fit and gas. L-lord certs / gas  
leaks 07954 543041/01384 825556

### house clearances

**ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid  
for house clearances and bereavement  
removals. Also removals undertaken.  
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

### painters / decorators

**MTK PAINTER & DECORATER**.  
Competitive quotes OAP discounts.  
01384 340930 / 07825 558940.

### removals

**ABLE REMOVALS**  
Local & Distance  
Domestic & Commercial  
Competitive Prices:  
Moves from only £99  
Call 07870 341089

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items,  
flat/house removals/clearances,  
Call Steve 0121  
422 2869 or 07815 04724.  
**CALL DEAN!** Business/Domestic  
Deliveries/Relocation/full house 1  
item. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870  
01384 940260 / 01922 263460.  
**CALL PETE** - MAN WITH A VAN.  
Removals, clearances. Items large  
or small. Call: 01902 741546 or  
07899 635852.

### roofing

**PREMIER ROOFING** all aspects.  
0121 532 7601 / 07575 387445.  
[www.rooferwestmidlands.com](http://www.rooferwestmidlands.com)  
**SEMI RETIRED ROOFER**  
Ridge Tiles Resealed, flat roofing,  
no job to small 40 years experience.  
Keith: 07546 158165

### skip hire

**BLITZ**  
**SKIPS**  
AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
2-50 YARD SKIPS  
AVAILABLE  
PUNJABI SPEAKERS  
MONDAY-SATURDAY  
7AM-6PM  
**01902 870370**  
**0121 517 1111**

**GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.**  
Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast,  
friendly & reliable service. Monday  
to Saturday, 6 day service. Call:  
0121 555 6060.

## 4 Pets & Animals

### equestrian corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to  
check if Horses have the required  
Passport information.  
**MINIATURE SHETLAND** tilly, 3 years  
old, blue and white, very good with  
children, can deliver, £225,  
0761 379384.

### guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that  
they meet all necessary legal  
requirements for owning and  
using guns.

**AIRGUNS, SHOTGUNS**, antique  
guns, taxidermy and fishing memorabilia  
wanted. 07968 624202

### pets corner

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you can  
follow to ensure that you are not  
purchasing from a Puppy  
Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with its  
Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any  
KC documentation, if pedigree.  
Whilst Midland News  
Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication  
of advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers  
purchase from this kind of  
establishment.


**COCKATIELS**  
for sale. From £15.  
Telephone 01902 823086.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** Girl Puppy,  
10 weeks, nice big bone, £300.  
07972 604503.

**KIND HOMES WANTED**  
**PATCH** shy, handsome 4yrs  
b/w border collie  
**FRED** 18mth Border collie boy,  
faded working, gentle, lovely  
**MOLLY** 6yr Westie/Jack Russ  
**BADGER** 10mth Jack Russell  
cross tan/white, sweet little boy  
**LACY** 10y Collie, 1yr, good  
with cats, dogs and in car.  
**COCO** 10yr Male Jack Russ x  
Beagle x 7 owner too ill  
**BUSTER** 10yr, Jack Russ x  
Staffie, lovely little affectionate  
chap, loves people/dogs.  
**ADELE** 7yr old spaniel/staffie,  
lovely natured girl, no young  
children, give her a chance  
Call 01384 251258.  
[www.dogsamaritans.org.uk](http://www.dogsamaritans.org.uk)

**KOI CARP** for sale, upto 24 inch,  
genuine koi only. Please call  
07857 893607.





# WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERYTIME!

## We buy any house

- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties for over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.

*Call Stan on*

# 0800 999 999 6

or 01902 628047 24/7 [www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk](http://www.blackcountry-homes.co.uk)

### WE ALSO BUY LAND

commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots...

*We'll even buy your garden*

**Text To GOAL 88802**

and we will call you back now

**SOLD!**

**RAMSDENS Property**

**WE PAY CASH!**

**SOLD**

**SELL FAST**

- Property investor needs properties in your area
- Cash payments
- We will cover all your fees
- Quicker service

**01922 689023**  
**0800 731 1160**

**AND GET A BETTER PRICE**

# CASH NOW

## FOR YOUR HOUSE

- Legal fees paid
- Guaranteed offer
- Any condition
- No fees
- Repossessions stopped
- Subject to terms

# 01902 628060

# 0800 389 6788

Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

**wolverhampton properties**

**we can buy your house in 2 days**

**LOOK WE BUY ANY HOUSE**

**national homeowners helpline.co.uk**

in a mess? talk in confidence we can help

**WE PAY MORE ANY AREA ANY CONDITION**

**24/7 0800 085 6626**  
**24/7 0121 274 0398**

**pink run by women**

**sell quick**

- No Fees\*
- Any property
- Any condition
- Free confidential service
- Any area\*
- Repossessions stopped
- Deceased estates

**0800 169 1118 call free 24 hours 01384 226087**

**Private Investor**

We are looking for houses in your area. We will take any type of property in any condition. Call us first - highest prices paid

Telephone **01922 689023**

straight forward investment solutions

## I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

I pay 100% of purchase price

Call now for the best price on your house

- Guaranteed offer\*
- Free solicitors
- Any condition
- No fees\*
- Terms apply

**24 hours Free phone or landline 0800 783 2822**  
**01384 226086**

**Dewmark Homes**

**STOP WE PAY MORE!**

100% every time\* Free Solicitors No Fees\*

**0800 313 4566**  
**01384 226086**

PI Group \*Subject to terms

**+SICK**

of trying to sell your house

Call the HOUSE DOCTOR Now for the best price

**0800 783 3225**  
**01922 689023**

**A Better Cash Deal**

It's a simple as that, you get the best deal on your home from **FIRST GENERAL HOMES**

**0121 308 7786**  
**0800 917 1233**

**One phone call solves all your problems**

sell your house now

A guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion, any condition, any circumstances

**01902 628047**  
**0800 633 5226**

**Sell your house**

We are just a phone call away

- Any circumstances
- Any condition
- No fees - fast completion

**0800 066 5558**  
**0121 274 0398**

Cash paid for your property

Guaranteed offer\*

Free solicitors - no fees\*

call us **0800 085 2455**  
**0121 308 7786 24/7**

**Aston Wood Properties**

**Harrison Fowler**

the name you can trust

Any property, any condition

**FREE valuation**

FREE solicitors

No obligation

No fees

Fast completion

**0800 587 2422 / 01902 628060 24 hours**

**STOP! problem property?**

Structural problems, mine shafts, non standard construction, concrete properties, steel properties, rising ground rent, rising lease costs, Japanese Knotweed, subsidence, nothing worries us... we will buy your house whatever the problem

**0800 783 0008 / 01902 628059**

**I BUY ANY HOUSE 4 CASH QUICK AND EASY**

call Alex **0800 111 441**  
**01543 499 032**

Anytime

**STRAIGHT TALK**

**FAST CASH OFFER FOR YOUR HOUSE**

**0800 500 3109**  
**01902 628060**

**Need Fast Cash?**

Buying property since 1984

**THE BEST OFFER ON YOUR HOUSE**

**0800 077 8808**  
**01384 226087**

**DON'T DELAY CALL TODAY**

for a fast cash offer

**01384 226 087**  
**0800 633 5288**

**NO STRINGS**

Local Investor pays you more

Call any time

**0800 633 5226 / 01922 689023**

**6 Property**

properties wanted

**accommodation to let**

**A FULLY FURNISHED** Studio apartment W-ton city centre, £330pcm. No Dss. Call 07581 645507.

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**houses for sale**

**BARMOUTH (North Wales)**

Freehold Holiday home in Barmouth town, approx 100 yards from beach.

2 bedroom, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, garage, off road parking, in need of work / TLC.

£49,950

**07850 413362 0121 708 1466.**

**mobile homes**

**BROSELEY, SHROPSHIRE**

Park Home, 2 double bedrooms, lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom with shower, low maintenance gardens, double glazed, central heating.

£67,500.

**01952 883554**  
**07923 010428.**

**5 Business & Farming**

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

**SAFE DRIVING FOR LIFE "QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS"**

**FREE ASSESSMENTS • FREE THEORY TEST TRAINING**

HGV, PCV, ALL LICENCE CATEGORIES. DRIVER CPC COURSES & TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT COURSES

CALL FOR A BROCHURE OR POP IN AND SEE US

**01902 312800**  
[www.hgvdrivertraining.co.uk](http://www.hgvdrivertraining.co.uk)

**CALL PENNY for TOP PRICES NOW**

\*Local \*Honest \*Reliable

**0800 389 6788**  
**01384 226086**

**HOME CASH BUYER**

WILL PAY 15K MORE

Complete within 7 days

**Ring Paul, 07870 341089**

**DO YOU WANT TO SELL OR RENT YOUR HOME FAST?**

2&3 Beds

**wendy@rheevemercer.com**  
**call: 07734 111 901**

**overseas property**

**NOTICE TO READERS**

Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**BURNHAM ON SEA**

**Unity Farm**

**3 BED CARAVAN TO LET**

**WHIT WEEK ONWARDS**

Good rate **07806679581**

**7 Jobs**

courses

**Learn how to take blood**

**TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST**

NATIONALLY RECOGNISED & ACCREDITED

**Introduction to Phlebotomy**

**TWO DAY COURSES**

NO PREVIOUS QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

**www.geopace.com**

Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Private - Community

**BIRMINGHAM** 18-19 JUNE 1-2 DEC.

**DROITWICH** 23-24 MAY & 8-9 AUGUST

**STOKE ON TRENT** 4-5 JULY 17-18 OCTOBER

**TELFORD** 8-9 JULY

**PICK UP the phone CALL NOW**

Best Price Sam

**01543 499032**  
**0800 500 3109**

**I WILL BUY YOUR HOUSE**

Call today for a best price

**0800 731 1160**  
**0121 274 0398**

**overseas property**

**NOTICE TO READERS**

Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**MODERN 2 BEDROOM PARK HOME FOR SALE.**

£88,500.

Telephone **07846 774003.**

**TOP GEAR**

Driver Training

- LGV / PCV Training
- 1-1 Gold Standard tuition
- Free Assessments
- CPC Courses
- Driver Medicals
- Caravan & Horse Box Tuition available

**0121 585 0834**  
[www.topgear-lgv.com](http://www.topgear-lgv.com)

**employment wanted**

**RETIRED TIME SERVED CARPENTER / JOINER**

Requires casual / part time work. Own van / tools. Has been involved in general maintenance for last 12 years. CRB cleared.

**01384 375672/07527 360303.**

**HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today?** We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

## Get Up to 100% For Your House - Fast!

- Any property. Any condition. Anywhere
- Get up to 100% of the market value
- Free valuation. Free consultation
- 100% Confidential. No obligation

**Fast Sale Maximum Value**

**The Property Ombudsman**

**Yellow Springbok**

**UP TO 100% PAID**

**SOLD**

**NO OBLIGATION FREE CONSULTATION**

24/7 Helpline **0800 092 5743**  
**01902 489 500**

**YellowSpringbok.co.uk**



## 8 Motoring

### cars under £1500

#### ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED

that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**AUDI A4 ESTATE** 2.4, petrol, automatic, 51, 6 months MoT, £400 ono, 07926 696037.

**FORD FOCUS 1.6 GHIA** Metallic black, 11 months MoT, good condition, £550, 07717 295019.

**FORD MONDEO GHIA, LPG**, 2004, 93k, 2.0, gold, very good condition, abs, air, c/m, s/c, ish, alarm, MoT, c/l, pas, alloys, CD, £1,350 ono, 07921 319244.

**HYUNDAI AMICA 999CC** 02, 70k, MoT, CL, PAS, front electric windows, coloured coded mirrors and bumpers. £675 ono 07565 832225.

**JAGUAR S TYPE** SE auto, silver, X reg, excellent condition, full leather interior, sat nav, multi CD player, extras, £1,050 ono. 07411 958454.

#### KIA SEDONA

Diesel, 7 seater people carrier.

2003, low miles, full MoT.

Excellent dual purpose vehicle

£1,195.

Private sale

07876 689771

**PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Turbo** Diesel Sport, 2004, 5 door, black, 100,000 miles, MoT, excellent condition. £595 ono. 07851 213316.

**PEUGEOT 406 ESTATE** HDI 2002, 134K, Silver, ABS, elec windows, air bags, A/C, FSH, MoT Jan 16, CD, Alloys. £995 ono 07855 969325

**RENAULT CLIO** 2004, 1.2, black, full MoT, excellent condition, low mileage, new clutch, economical, £1050, 07565 857723.

**RENAULT LAGUNA** 2003, silver, air bag, electric mirrors air con, MoT, central locking, pas, CD, diesel, sunroof, £775 ono 07920133808

**RENAULT SCENIC DCI** Diesel 2003, 91k, new MoT, serviced, tidy, dependable car, £1,103k, or very near offer. 07565 712371.

**SAAB 900CCD GRIFFIN 3.0 V6**, good condition, MoT Feb 2016, all electric, £600 ono, 07547 265879 or 01902 307750.

**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 53**, runs but engine fault, many new parts, £300 ono. For details 07738 388049.

**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0**, Blue, 04 plate, 7 months MoT, ideal first car. Very good condition. £750 ono. 07791 424718.

**VAUXHALL ZAFIRA** Club, 1.6, Petrol, 7 seater, 56 Plate, 2 owners, 16, 6 months MoT, 103k, blue, £1,275 ono 01902 342564.

### cars over £1500

### SELLING YOUR CAR?

We have a package to suit every budget.

Packages start from as little as

£19.50 for 6 nights

Plus

6 nights free if you do not sell.

#### CALL

01902 317878

**FORD MONDEO 2.0LX** Auto, 55 reg, metallic paint, black interior, cruise control, 72,000 miles, MoT Oct £1,390 ono. 01394 401209.

#### FORD TRANSIT

#### HIGH TOP

#### MOTOR HOME

Diesel, 3 berth.

Extremely low mileage. FSH, every extra and much more.

Absolute bargain £2,500.

Private sale

07876 689771

**JAGUAR X TYPE** diesel, 05, silver, leather, electric seats, MoT'd. Immaculate condition, £1,500. 07885 772 238.



#### MINI ONE 1.4

2008, 36,000 Miles, Sparkling Silver, electric windows/mirrors, air con, MoT, Alloys, CD, heated front/rear windows, full service history, one owner

£5,795 ono

01384 296715



#### MINI ONE 1.6

Excellent condition. 12 months MoT. Low mileage. Full Service History.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

**NISSAN PRIMERA 2.0 Sport** Saloon, Sept 01, black, 49k, Nissan SH. Immaculate car in excellent condition. £1,450, 01562 753457.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** Energy, 5-dr hatchback, AC, alloys, EW, only 9,800 miles, MoT till Sep. £3,150 ono. 01384 230287.

**VOLVO S40** Diesel, 69,000 miles, FSH, 55 reg, MoT Oct, AC, metallic blue, excellent condition, £3,995 ono. Kingswinford 07775 752851.

### classic cars

#### CLASSIC CARS WANTED

Private cash buyer

Instant cash settlement.

Any age, any condition.

Call Market Drayton.

01630 652993.

### driving tuition



#### Homer's

Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KIA, Fiat 500, Yaris.

10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50! 2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered

MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS

MANUAL & AUTOMATIC

AD/PP/ REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available.

07970 200066 / 01922 780250

01692 870050 / 01303 234954

01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090

01902 580065

www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

### motorbikes

**QUADZILLA 250** Stinga, 06, £2000.

07460 313381.

**TRIUMPH THUNDERBIRD 900**

2001, 7,300 miles, screens, panniers, rack, extra chrome, superb.

£3,950, 07896 817613.

### scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

**MCB**

TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS

Tel: 01902 408176

1000's of parts available at all times

MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

**ABC AUTO SALVAGE**

WANTED URGENT

Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered

Spares Always Available

0121 557 0800 or 0121 557

0400. Evening 07813 184611

Oldbury Area.

### vehicles wanted

### alan reed cars

Used cars wanted for cash

Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.

01562 711083 / 07831 245313

**CROWN MOTORS** Guarantee best cash price for unwanted cars and vans. Call 07585 664389.

### spares & accessories

#### mobile mechanics

**MOBILE MECHANICS** Service & repairs. Headgasket, clutches and cambelts. 07747 848469.

## 9 Local Information

### public & legal notices

**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES** For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to **Marie Hogg on 01902 713146** or email **marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk** (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

#### PETRINA ANN MATTHEWS

(otherwise known as CADWALADR) (Deceased)

£2,400 ono

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

**NISSAN PRIMERA 2.0 Sport** Saloon, Sept 01, black, 49k, Nissan SH. Immaculate car in excellent condition. £1,450, 01562 753457.

**VAUXHALL CORSA** Energy, 5-dr hatchback, AC, alloys, EW, only 9,800 miles, MoT till Sep. £3,150 ono. 01384 230287.

**VOLVO S40** Diesel, 69,000 miles, FSH, 55 reg, MoT Oct, AC, metallic blue, excellent condition, £3,995 ono. Kingswinford 07775 752851.

**THURFIELD'S LEGAL LIMITED** 42 Foregate Street Worcester WR1 1EF

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

01902 756922 or 07870 959324.

**LOOKING FOR MY SON**  
**FEMALE 54**  
Mr A Lewis, last seen in Wolverhampton.  
Please get in touch.  
Write to: Box No P19802, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



#### PROFESSIONAL

Looking for an Educated male to a Degree Level who is attractive, genuine and caring, enjoys quiet nights in, outdoor life and holidays abroad.

Early 50's to early 60's, who is caring, honest and respectable.

For Friendship or more. Genuine replies only.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Box Number P19804, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



# 5-door hatch a MINI marvel!

By Sharon Walters

**It didn't get off to a good start. I jumped in to the MINI Cooper D 1.5 for the first time to take son to the railway station and kept hitting my elbow against the driver's door.**

"For goodness sake," I exclaimed, "I'm only five feet four with appropriate length limbs and this should not be happening. What if I was a six footer?"

Then I regaled and probably bored my son to death with tales of my very first car, a Mini van when I was a student, back when God was a boy. I bought it for just £100 and sold it a year later for £90 after many hundreds of miles travelling to festivals and camping holidays. A whole year's motoring had cost me just £10 and I had never bruised my elbows when driving!

I moaned and groaned to myself on my return journey home and then had another look at the settings for the seat, steering wheel and centre console which also annoyed me. Hands up now. If I had taken more time to set the driving position up, I would not have endured bruised limbs. In my defence we were close to being late for the train and I had perhaps rushed the process. A couple of minutes and all was fine with the world.

The following day I embarked on a 420 mile trip along lanes and motorways which was followed by even more miles visiting friends and skirting mountains, followed by the trip back. Tiring you may think? Not in the least. I had some great fun in the car in a perfect driving position!

This five-door diesel can go like a pocket rocket in sport or 'go kart' mode when you

desire and eats up winding country roads like light snacks. And if you want to watch the economy it will cut back your fuel consumption in green mode. While for every-day driving there is a mid mode. This MINI Driving Modes option provides an excellent basis for fuel efficient motoring. A rotary switch at the base of the gear or selector lever is used to activate either the default mid mode, sport mode or green mode. In SPORT, the accelerator pedal and steering are switched to a more performance-oriented set-up, as are the shift times in cars fitted with the Steptronic transmission). In green mode, a more relaxed and fuel-efficient driving style is supported by intelligent control of energy and climate management, as well as by systems such as shift point display.

### Sharper

What is a delight is the sense of urgency when you push this MINI at speed, especially in sport when the steering gets sharper and the throttle is quicker. A real joy to drive. It performs and handles so well, never any hesitation or nervousness even when taking on winding and rolling country roads.

The 114bhp 3-cylinder 1.5-litre diesel engine has so much torque and gets from 0-62mph sprint time in a shade over nine seconds with a top speed (where legally) of 126mph. An additional pleasure, for me, is the gently throaty burble when you're in the lower rev range.

There is plenty of room for four and you can get a third passenger in the back. But in reality that would only be comfortable for short journeys. However a child would be quite at ease. MINI is targeting a more grown-up demographic with a five-door variant, designed to appeal to those who



.....  
**'What is a delight is the sense of urgency when you push this MINI at speed, especially in sport when the steering gets sharper and the throttle is quicker.'**  
.....

want to carry people in the rear. It will also appeal to those who may need more luggage space.

The boot is good for the size of the car but with the rear seats folded down is impressive.

Inside the quality and equipment levels are very good. Standard specification includes a six-speed manual transmission, front and rear electric windows, electrically adjustable exterior mirrors, air-conditioning, door sill cover strips with a model-specific inscription, front fog lamps, onboard computer, MINI Radio including aux-in, USB interface and Bluetooth, DAB Digital Radio and front ISOFIX with passenger airbag deactivation. These can be supplemented with a range of high-quality comfort, functionality and individualisation options.

On the safety front there's also a sizeable package.

The MINI 5-Door Hatch is available in six model variants with a choice of both petrol and diesel engines. A six-speed manual transmission is fitted as standard across the range, with a six-speed Steptronic transmission available as an option. Combined cycle CO2 emissions start at just 92 g/km.

Prices start at £14,350. And it is built in the UK at the MINI plant in Oxford. German money behind the best of British manufacturing!



The Power of Dreams

# Better

The new Civic.

# Sleeker

New sportier design with rear spoiler.

# Further

Up to 76.3mpg.



**The brand new Civic range from £15,975 to £25,860\*.**  
Flexible finance. 5 Years' complimentary servicing.



## BRINDLEY HONDA

With sites in Cannock, Halesowen, West Bromwich & Wolverhampton.  
Call: 03337 773277 or visit: [www.brindley-honda.co.uk](http://www.brindley-honda.co.uk) Calls charged at local rate

**Fuel consumption figures for the Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 80.7 (3.5), Combined 76.3 (3.7). CO2 emissions: 98g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes & may not reflect real-life driving experience.**

**Model Shown:** Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in Brilliant Sporty Blue Metallic at £21,345 On The Road (OTR). \*15VM Civic range from £15,975 for 1.4 S Manual non metallic to £25,860 for 1.8 EX+ Auto metallic. **Terms and Conditions:** New retail 15VM Civic registered from 01 April 2015 to 30 June 2015. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. **Deposit contributions:** £500 Honda deposit contribution on Civic Diesel models purchased through Honda Aspirations. **Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Honda Aspirations (PCP):** \*5.9% APR Representative example shown based on Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in Brilliant Sporty Blue Metallic at £21,345 total cash price with 37 months; 5.9% APR Representative PCP (interest rate per annum 5.68% fixed). Minimum customer deposit 0%, maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc, Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years Servicing included:** All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. 5 Years Servicing is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,430 including VAT, resulting in a £930 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



## Halesowen Autos

Quality Used Cars At Great Prices



 <p><b>09/09 Mini 1.6 120bhp Cooper</b> 66k miles, Silver, Alloy Wheels, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£6295 / £31 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>03/03 Mercedes E220 CDI Diesel Classic</b> 100k, Beige, Full Cream Leather, Alloys, CD, Air Con <b>£4295 / 21 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>10/10 Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec AUTOMATIC</b> 3dr, 35k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD, E/Windows <b>£5995 / £28 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>08/08 Volkswagen Polo 1.2 E</b> *ONLY 28k MILES* *LOW INSURANCE* Silver, CD <b>£4195 / £20 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>10/10 Renault Clio 1.5 DCi Dynamique TomTom Diesel Estate</b> *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX* 77k, Beige, Sat Nav, Air Con, CD <b>£5495 / £28 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>07/57 Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia</b> 3dr, 53k, Violet, Alloys, Full Leather, Air Con, Heated Screen, CD <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>07/07 Volvo S40 D5 SE 2.4 Diesel Geartronic</b> Automatic 4dr, 67k, Blue, Alloys, Black Leather, Climate Control, CD <b>£4695 / £24 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>08/08 Nissan Micra 1.2 16v (79bhp) Acenta+</b> 3dr, 48k, Grey Metallic, *LOW INSURANCE* Air Con <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>09/09 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4 SXI</b> 5dr, 46k, Black, Alloys, Air Con, CD <b>£4495 / £22 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>07/57 Ford Fusion 1.4 Style Climate</b> 51k, Blue, *LOW INSURANCE* Air Con, CD, Climate Pack <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>07/57 Renault Kangoo 1.6 16v 95 Expression Automatic,</b> 37k, Red, CD, E/Windows, Sliding Side Doors <b>£4495 / £22 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>07/07 Suzuki Swift 1.3 GL</b> *ONE OWNER* 47k, Burnt Orange, CD Player, E/Windows <b>£3995 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>07/07 Ford Fusion 1.6 TDCi Plus</b> Diesel, 48k, Silver, *ONLY £30 ROAD TAX* *AVERAGE 62 MPG* Alloys <b>£4495 / £22 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>06/06 Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate</b> 3dr, 59k, Black, *LOW INSURANCE* Air Con, Heated Screen, CD <b>£3695 / £20 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>08/58 Fiat Bravo 1.9 Multijet Diesel Dynamic,</b> 58 Reg, 61k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD <b>£4495 / £22 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>07/57 Fiat Punto 1.2 Dynamic</b> 5dr, 39 k, Blue, Alloys, Air Con, CD <b>£3495 / £19 Per Week</b></p>
 <p><b>08/58 Fiat Panda 1.4 100hp</b> 39k, *LOW INSURANCE* Black, Alloys, Air Con, CD <b>£4295 / £21 Per Week</b></p>	 <p><b>03/03 MG ZS+ 1.8 Stepspeed AUTOMATIC</b> 65k, Green, Alloys, Half Leather, Park Sensors <b>£1695 / £15 Per Week</b></p>

Finance example: Nissan Micra 1.2 16v (79bhp) Acenta+ 3dr, Cash Price £3995, Deposit £300, Amount of credit £4695, Fixed interest rate 6.25% Flat rate, 11.8% APR, 60 Payments of £80.83 (£18.66 per week) Total amount payable £5149.80 (Excludes £150 Document fee and £150 Completion fee, Subject to status)

**FINANCE AVAILABLE • PART EXCHANGE WARRANTIES AVAILABLE • WE BUY CARS**

**1 CROSS STREET, HALESOWEN B63 4RT**  
**Tel: 0121 501 3840**  
**[www.halesowenautos.co.uk](http://www.halesowenautos.co.uk)**





# Honda's new HR-V looking on line to be ultra efficient

By James Parker

**Honda says its all-new HR-V will be one of the most efficient cars in its class and have an unmatched combination of sought-after attributes when it arrives in showrooms across the UK this summer.**

As well as dynamic styling, class-leading interior space and versatility, and advanced infotainment and safety technologies, the new HR-V will deliver fuel economy and emissions among the best in its class.

It will be offered from launch with a choice of 1.6 litre i-DTEC diesel and 1.5 litre i-VECTEC petrol engines, both from Honda's advanced Earth Dreams Technology series.

"The Honda HR-V created this fast growing market segment back in 1999 and for 2015 the all new HR-V will offer a class leading ownership proposition, refinement, sleek styling, a quality feel as well as being packed to the roof with safety and technology features.

"We are confident that the HR-V will perform favourably against its main competitors in this segment, such as the current market leading Nissan Qashqai," said Leon Brannan, Head of Car, Honda (UK).

Combining the 1.6 litre i-DTEC diesel paired with a newly-engineered six-speed manual transmission, Honda's new subcompact SUV will return fuel economy figures from 71mpg, with CO2 emissions starting from just 104g/km.

HR-V customers won't find performance compromised by the car's frugality, however, with 118bhp powering the new HR-V from 0-62mph in 10.1 seconds.

Petrol buyers can select a 130 PS 1.5 litre i-VECTEC engine, achieving combined fuel economy of 54.2mpg and CO2 emissions from 120 g/km when they opt for the CVT automatic transmission.

## Economy

When married with the standard six-speed manual, the new petrol-powered HR-V delivers fuel economy of 50mpg and CO2 emissions at a highly competitive 130 g/km.

Sprightly performance is assured with 62mph reached from standstill in just 10.3 seconds with the manual and 10.9 seconds when equipped with the optional CVT.

The new HR-V's efficient performance credentials are aided by its design and class-leading aerodynamics, with underbody panels optimising airflow. In profile, the HR-V portrays a characterful poise, with the distinctive, boldly sculpted lines of a coupé merged with the tough, solid stance of a robust SUV.

Inside, the new HR-V will offer class-leading boot space: 453 litres with the rear seats up and 1,026 litres with the rear seats down.

Thanks to innovative packaging, the Honda HR-V's best-in-class interior space is exceptionally versatile and incorporates Honda's highly practical Magic Seats system.

Premium quality materials and sophisticated cabin design are blended with the feel of a sporty, enveloping cockpit.

Specification highlights include the advanced Honda Connect in-car infotainment system, and a wide range of safety aids employing radar and camera technologies to scan the road ahead.

Further details including pricing will be available closer to the new HR-V's summer launch.



# OakGarage

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage,  
Full Service History, Ex Motability Vehicles

.co.uk

## Our Low Mileage Selection

12 Mitsubishi Colt CZ2 1.3 Auto Blue	Only 3400 Miles	£6,995
12 Astra 1.4 Exclusiv Brown	Only 3900 Miles	£9,295
13 Focus 1.6 Zetec 125 Auto Gold	Only 5000 Miles	£10,995
12 Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv Red	Only 5000 Miles	£8,295
12 Astra 1.6 Exclusiv Blue	Only 8000 Miles	£8,495
59 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue	Only 8000 Miles	£7,495
61 Kangoo 1.6 Express Auto Red	Only 9700 Miles	£6,995
12 Gr Scenic 1.6 Dyn Tomtom Black	Only 10000 Miles	£8,995
63 C4 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Silver	Only 10000 Miles	£11,995
12 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Blue	Only 11000 Miles	£8,495
12 308 1.6 HDI Active Silver	Only 12000 Miles	£8,995
61 Kia Soul 2 1.6 Black	Only 12000 Miles	£8,295
11 Mini One 1.6 Orange	Only 12000 Miles	£7,995

### Citroen

61 C3 1.4 VTR+ Blue 15k	£6,995
12 C3 Picasso 1.6 HDI VTR+ Grey 14k	£8,495
13 DS3 1.6 Dstyle Auto Yellow 16k	£9,295
13 DS5 2.0 HDI Dstyle Grey 31k	£12,995

### Ford

06 Fiesta 1.2 Style Silver 52k	£3,495
12 Fiesta 1.2 Zetec Silver 18k	£7,495
10 Fiesta 1.6 Titanium Red 41k	£6,995
59 Focus 1.6 Zetec Blue 60k	£5,495
57 Mondeo 2.0 TDCI Titanium Silver 56k	£5,995

### Nissan

59 Micra 1.4 Tekna Auto Red 21k	£5,795
58 Note 1.4 Acenta Blue 47k	£4,795
12 Note 1.6 N-Tec+ Auto Blue 18k	£8,495
07 Note 1.6 Tekna Orange 43k	£4,295
06 Note 1.6 SE Auto Silver 52k	£3,795

### Peugeot

61 207 1.4 HDI Active 3dr Silver 20k	£5,995
12 3008 1.6 HDI Exclusive Black 15K	£10,995
62 3008 1.6 HDI Active II EGC Vapour Grey 20k	£10,795
61 3008 1.6 HDI Active II EGC Red 24k	£8,995

### Vauxhall

12 Corsa 1.4 SE Auto Silver 13k	£7,795
57 Astra 1.4 Club Silver 73k	£2,995
12 Zafira 1.6 Design Red 20k	£8,795
62 Zafira 1.7 CDTI Design Silver 18k	£9,995
61 Insignia 2.0 CDTI SRI Auto Silver 28k	£9,295

### Other

55 BMW 118 2.0D ES 5dr Silver 97k	£4,795
12 Chevrolet Orlando 1.8 LT Auto Red 20k	£8,795
07 Daihatsu Terios 1.5 S Grey 47k	£4,995
57 Dodge Caliber 2.0 SX CVT Auto Red 73k	£2,995
58 Fiat Doblo 1.9 D Dynamic Silver 41k	£4,795
08 Hyundai I30 1.6 CRDI Comfort Auto Red 46k	£5,295
52 Jaguar S-Type 4.2 SE Auto Silver 72k	£1,995
05 Renault Modus 1.4 Dynamique Black 51k	£2,495
55 Renault Megane 1.9 DCI Dynamique 3dr Blue	£1,995
11 Skoda Fabia 1.6 TDI Elegance Blue 21k	£7,995
58 Toyota Yaris 1.4 TR D-4D S/Auto Silver 20k	£6,795

Specialists In One Owner, Low Mileage,  
Full Service History, Ex Motability Vehicles

## This Weeks Low Mileage Specials



Mini 1.6 One  
11 Reg

Only 12000 Miles  
From New

£7995

Colt CZ2  
1.3 Auto  
2012



Only 3000 Miles  
From New

£6995



Another 100 Low Mileage Cars Available Soon See Details At:

[www.oakgarage.co.uk](http://www.oakgarage.co.uk)

Unit 1, Sterling Park, Brierley Hill Dy5 1TB

Tel: 01384 75097

Opening Times: Mon-Thu: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4



# Peugeot 208 is on the up

By Graham Breeze

**It's time for Peugeot buyers to start getting excited with the arrival of the new 208 just around the corner.**

The 208 has been a key player in Peugeot's rise up the UK sales ladder and order books have been bulging since the new model was revealed at the Geneva Motor Show.

The new model hits our streets on June 1 with new styling, more colour choices and scores of personalisation opportunities. Expectations are high that this 208 will help Peugeot's sales soar, backed up by new equipment levels such as active city braking and reversing cameras to improve urban driving.

It's clearly a move up market and the 208 now looks much more distinctive with a wider front grille and new two-tone headlights with black chrome masks and a high-tech LED light signature, fitted as standard from Active trim upwards.

At the rear, the full LED light clusters have been redesigned to incorporate Peugeot's 3D 'claws' motif.

Further enhancements include exclusive new 16 and 17-inch wheel options, available across the range, available in a choice of painted, diamante or with innovative sequential diamante or laser engraved finishes.

Chrome door mirror shells are now standard from the Allure trim upwards.

When the 208 was launched in 2012 it was the first opportunity for customers to experience Peugeot's new 'i-Cockpit' cabin concept, which has since been adopted by the 2008 and new 308.

Consisting of a compact steering wheel, head-up instrumentation panel and large touch-screen, it compares well with anything in the sector and is easy to understand – with everything exactly where you expect to find it.

I particularly like the new steering wheel, which is now trimmed in full-grain leather from Active trim, while the soft-touch moulded dashboard strip – which is standard regardless of trim level – has new graining on higher specification models.

## Improvements

A seven-inch touch screen is standard from Active trim level, and provides easy access to all systems including audio, navigation, telephone, vehicle information and internet. There's on-board connectivity using Bluetooth, USB and mobile applications via Peugeot Connect Apps, adopting the latest software improvements.

New to 208 is the impressive MirrorScreen, which makes it possible to transfer the screen of a smartphone to the vehicle's display, to make full use of its applications.

Driving a different car every week I am finding parking a chore but the 208 now has Parking Assist allowing the vehicle to park in and leave a parallel parking space automatically. It's brilliant, once you have the confidence to let the vehicle park itself.

Personalisation is now a deciding factor in many small car purchases and available for the first time are exterior personalisation packs – such as Menthol White – which is a factory-fitted option from Active trim level. And there's now 13 colours to pick from.

The revised engine line-up means all versions of the 208 meet stringent Euro 6 emissions standards.



Every version of the new 208 is below 95g/km of CO2 and with the exception of the 75hp in entry level trim, all are equipped with Stop & Start (S&S) technology.

The 1.6-litre BlueHDI engines are now available with three power levels choices. The first two are the 75 and 100 S&S, which are coupled with a five-speed manual gearbox and capable of impressive economy at 94.1mpg – a record for the segment, and in the market. The third is the 120 S&S which is mated to a six-speed manual gearbox, which produces just 94g/km of CO2.

Following the launch of the naturally aspirated 1.0-litre PureTech 68hp and 1.2-litre PureTech 82hp engines, the PureTech family

of three-cylinder petrol engines is expanded with the 1.2-litre turbocharged PureTech 110hp S&S version. Coupled with a five-speed manual gearbox, this engine achieves CO2 emissions of just 103g/km.

The new 208 is available with the new EAT6 six-speed automatic gearbox, which uses Quickshift technology allowing for faster changes.

Peugeot hope that with official CO2 emissions of 104g/km, the 1.2-litre PureTech 110hp S&S EAT6 will be the reference in terms of a petrol automatic transmission in its segment.

Available in three and five-door versions, 208 GT Line is available with a choice of three engines – the 1.2-litre PureTech 110hp S&S

petrol or the 1.6-litre BlueHDI diesel in either 100hp or 120hp outputs.

I'm expecting the 208GTi to be particularly popular, featuring a lowered ride height, wider tracks, 18-inch wheels, matt black exterior features, sports 'bucket' front seats, red floor mats and two-tone paintwork.

And with Brembo front brakes, Torsen differential, tuned suspension and steering settings with Michelin Pilot Super Sport tyres the GTi will set a few hearts racing.

And with prices ranging from just over £10,000 to just under £20,000 there's something in the range to suite just about everyone's tastes.

Expect to see a lot more of the Peugeot 208.

## Express Repairs for Minor Accident Damage



✓ **Bumper scuffs**

✓ **Kerbed alloys**



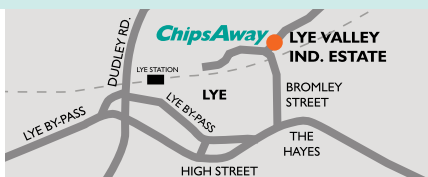
✓ **Paintwork scratches**

✓ **Dented panels**

**Local: 01384 429568**  
**Mobile: 07500 858428**

Email us: [halesowen.stourbridge@chipsaway.co.uk](mailto:halesowen.stourbridge@chipsaway.co.uk)  
[www.chipsawayhalesowenandstourbridge.co.uk](http://www.chipsawayhalesowenandstourbridge.co.uk)

Visit us: Unit 14 Lye Valley Industrial Estate,  
Bromley Street, Lye DY9 8HX



**ChipsAway**

Scratches and scuffs won't dent your pocket



• Free Estimates • Lifetime Guarantee • Most Repairs Completed in One Day

Express & Star

## VIRTUAL MOTORSHOW

THINKING OF BUYING A NEW CAR IN THE NEW YEAR?

**REVIEW YOUR NEW CAR BY VIDEO BEFORE YOU TEST DRIVE!**



**KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST MANUFACTURER AND DEALER OFFERS BY VISITING OUR SHOW**

DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP - DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE

• Video reviews • Dealership information

[expressandstar.com/drivetime](http://expressandstar.com/drivetime)



# Swimmers' campaign gets off to a great start

**Mercian Summer League Round 1 Cheslyn Hay**

SWIMMERS from Halesowen swimming Club travelled to Cheslyn Hay for the first round of the Mercian Summer League on Saturday looking to pull off a good result.

The team got the 2015 campaign off to a great start and were in strong contention throughout the gala before grabbing the runners-up spot overall on the night.

Stars of the show were double event winners Jacob Bailey in the backstroke and breaststroke and Jakob Baker who competed in the butterfly and breaststroke.

Other individual event winners were Isobelle Cashmore in the breaststroke, Sam Bradley-Wood in the backstroke and Jemima Vaughan-Hawkins in the butterfly.

The relay teams were in fine form with the age 10 and under girls' team which included Libby Hickman, Eleanor Stark and Tegan Turley.

The open men's team included Tristan Bland, George Davies, Nigel Gaskin and Harvey Thompson won both the freestyle and the medley events.

The age 10 and under boys included Adam Ryan, Noah Taylor and Jamie Worton, while the girls 12 and under team included Ruby Hanke, Jessica Jones and Sophie Parsons.

The boys age 14 and under team won the freestyle relays included Robert Jennings, Oliver Jones and Euan Vaughan-Hawkins.

Final point scores were Worcester 236, Halesowen 219, Lichfield 206, Blythe Barracudas 166, Boldmere 146.

# Tividale make it to final of the Hunt Cup

EVOSTICK Division One side Tividale progressed to the final of the JW Hunt Cup after an entertaining 3-1 win against Midland Football League Premier Division opponents Alvechurch.

Tividale took a 32nd minute lead. Luke Paskin side footed past the keeper.

Alvechurch began to build up some pressure but the hopes were hit when Edwards slid a neat ball through for Foster to roll a shot past the onrushing keeper.

Four minutes later Alvechurch grabbed a lifeline when Luke Dugmore curled home a superb 30 yard shot, giving keeper Paul Evans no chance.

Their renewed belief was hit again as Tividale restored their two goal lead eight minutes from time when through Edwards.

# Albion now focussing on Phillips

ALBION are ready to focus their attentions on QPR winger Matty Phillips after cooling their interest in Bakary Sako because of the Wolves man's wage demands.

The Baggies plan to step up their interest in Phillips over the next few weeks with the club' looking increasingly likely to be relegated from the Premier League.

But Hawthorns officials expect fierce competition for Phillips' signature from a host of top-flight rivals if the 24-year-old is allowed to leave Loftus Road. It's reported Phillips has moved above Sako on the Baggies' summer transfer hit-list after the out-of-contact Wolves man shocked Albion with his wage demands, although they have not ruled out further talks if Sako lowers his sights.

Boss Tony Pulis wants at least one more wideman in time for next season, having only landed Callum McManaman in January despite enquiring about a host of other widemen – including Phillips.

Several Nottingham Forest's Michail Antonio was another player who Albion considered in January and might return for in the summer.

Pulis will also look to add several new full-backs, with Swansea left-back Neil Taylor still high on his list.

He wants to add extra firepower in attack and might consider a free-transfer move for West Ham's Carlton Cole, whose proposed move to The Hawthorns on the final day of the January transfer window broke down at the 11th hour.

Meanwhile, Hawthorns sources have played down online reports linking Albion with a summer move for Wolves striker Benik Afobe.

While Sako remains a serious target, sources at The Hawthorns claim they have no plans currently to pursue Afobe. Afobe moved from Arsenal to Wolves in January and ended the season with 32 goals this season, including 19 while on loan at MK Dons in the first half of the campaign. But Albion are likely to revamp their forward line in the summer.

# Shahid takes team loss on the chin

**FAISAL Shahid was philosophical in defeat after seeing his Halesowen side miss out at the weekend.**

They went down to Penkridge by three wickets despite setting a useful total of 246-9.

Skipper Shahid said: "Good knocks from Ben Stebbings, when we needed to rebuild after the loss of two early wickets, and then especially Will Barrett and Wes Griffiths when we were looking to set a competitive total got us past 240 when at one stage getting past 200 looked like it would be difficult."

Stebbins, making his first appearance for the club, set about rebuilding the innings after a poor start alongside Hassan Qaumi and the pair had put on 112 for the third wicket when Stebbings fell for 84.

With wickets still in hand Will Barrett (68) and Wes Griffiths (36) set about posting a competitive total and some fine hitting took them past 240 and securing the extra batting point.

Barrett finally fell to a good catch in the deep by Smith, again off Maher. The innings closed with Halesowen posting a very competitive 246-9.

## Reduced

The Halesowen bowlers were sharp out of the blocks and reduced Penkridge to 5-3 with Shahid removing both the openers.

The Chishti brothers, Laeq and Attiq, then put on 113 in good time before Laeq fell to the bowling of Zain Shahid for 54 in only the 26th over.

It was clear Halesowen had to stifle the run rate or bowl out the opposition to win and whilst the wickets continued to fall the runs flowed from Attiq Chishti who finished with an undefeated century and was ably backed up by Sze-wczy (28) and Smith (27) to win for Penkridge.

The club have labelled their first ever night of Darts a massive success.

Former Premier League star-turned Sky Sports pundit Wayne 'Hawai-501' Mardle entertained a packed room in the clubhouse at Seth Somers Park – and another event is already planned for next year.

And the crowd were handed a welcome surprise when top PDC star Stephen Bunting, the 2014 Lakeside World Champion, made a surprise appearance.

# Sako tears himself away from club



A very emotional Bakary Sako of Wolverhampton Wanderers thanks the fans after the final game of the season

BULLISH Kenny Jackett greeted Wolves' play-off miss by vowing the best is to come – but he admitted Bakary Sako will leave.

Wolves' 4-2 win against Millwall saw them finish seventh as Brentford beat Wigan 3-0 to make the top six with Ipswich, while Derby missed out after losing 3-0 against Reading.

But boss Jackett is already looking to next season and declared his young squad – coupled with the right additions this summer – will only improve.

"We have a high number of players who have their best years ahead of them," said the head coach. "Improvement isn't just in the transfer market, it's from every player as well."

"They all have to come back better next year, whether that's a small percentage or a large one.

We have quite a young group here – Nouha Dicko, Benik Afobe, Dominic Iorfa at right-back, Jack Price came on and Ethan Ebanks-Landell did very well.

"Richard Stearman is 27 but his best years are ahead of him.

"It's my job now to drive them on to be the best they can." Jackett is looking for Wolves to continue the run that saw them pick up 30 points from 15 games.

# Brummies make it two out of two wins

BIRMINGHAM made it two out of two in the National League with an impressive 51-39 win against Stoke.

It was another incident packed night at Perry Barr, but the Brummies fought hard to ensure they picked up three more league points and send the visitors home empty handed.

Team Manager Graham Drury was thrilled to see his side maintain their unbeaten start to the league campaign.

"It was another fantastic team performance and I think we were good value for our win in the end," said Drury.

"Things were pretty close early on but, as I expected, we were strong in the second half and managed to pull away."

"Adam Ellis was in a class of his own, Zach was absolutely superb, Tom Perry did his captain's role really once again and the other boys chipped in with some important points."

"It was another pleasing night and we'll take that with us to Looker Road on Saturday."

Adam Ellis eased to a 15 point maximum, whilst Zach Wajtknecht (14) and Tom Perry (12+2) bagged double figures at home once again.

Adam Kirby suffered a mixed night but still managed an important 5+1, whilst Alex Wilson managed three points prior to a huge crash in Heat 12.

Harvie Banks endured another tough night but rode well to hold on to his two points.

Birmingham: Adam Ellis 15, Zach Wajtknecht 14, Tom Perry 12+2, Adam Kirby 5+2, Alex Wilson 3, Harvie Banks 2, Sam Chapman R/R.

# Welborn ready to defend his title at Civic

A four-midable night of boxing at Wolverhampton Civic Hall will see a quartet of Midlands titles contested under one roof on one night, writes Craig Birch.

Those 10-round contests will decide the fate of the area crown's at featherweight, light welter, light middle and super middle on a solitary evening.

The summer blockbuster will take place on Saturday June 6, headlined by Jason Welborn's defence at light middle against Ryan Aston.

Rowley Regis' Welborn, a two-weight Midlands champion and British title challenger, meets Dudley's Ryan Aston in a grudge match.

For tickets and information call the Civic on 0870 320 7000 or Rowson directly on 07976 283 157.



# GET A FAST RESPONSE ADVERTISE

Local newspapers and websites offer the most effective combination for driving consumer action. Readers are more than twice as likely to act upon local advertisements than those on TV and social media

SOURCE: The Newspaper Society - Consumer Catalyst 2014





## Yeltz aim to cash in on Albion rise

HALESOWEN TOWN has slashed season ticket prices – in an attempt to lure disgruntled Albion fans who are facing a hike in the cost of watching their team and hopefully boost their attendances at matches.

The Yeltz, who start their second campaign in the Northern Premier League in August, are offering an early-bird price of £150.

This priced has been knocked down from the original price of £190 for adults – until May 17.

The move comes as local Premiership team Albion revealed it was increasing its own adult season tickets by £50, meaning that they will then range from £399 up to £548.90 for the 2015-16 season.

Yeltz commercial manager Chris Lambert said: "This is not only to reward fans' loyalty this season but also to attract a new ever increasing fan base."

"Albion fans have seen their tickets go up by £50 so we are appealing to them or anyone who want to watch affordable competitive football."

"It's absurd that team are deciding to increase ticket prices with the amount of TV money coming in the Premier League this season," added Mr Lambert.

Yelts senior and student season tickets are prices at £100, while for under-16s it is £50 and for the under-12s are free providing they are with a paying adult or senior.

Match prices at The Grove have also been frozen for next year.

The ticket prices will remain at £10 for adults, £7 for seniors and students, £3 for under-16s, and free for under-12s providing they are attending with a paying adult or senior.

### ● Cricket report inside

## The George fight strong battle to take the match

### Warwick and Worcester Premier Division 1

**The George 209 West Brom FSC 205**  
THE George had a great battle in a very entertaining match against West Brom FSC, with the result in doubt until the last bowl of the match.

West Brom got off to a good start and led by 10 shots after the 1st four, Phil Clinton (21-16) and Elliot McGuinness (21-17) winning for The George.

In the middle four The George had two more losers and at one point were 22 shots adrift but wins from Alan Belcher (21-9) and Stewart Meddings (21-14) kept the difference to 10 shots.

The turning point came in the back four when Jamie Dunn put in a captains performance to win 21-4 putting The George in front for the first time.

Two further defeats meant that with the last game on the green The George held a slender two-shot advantage.

With the last game tied at 16-16 Stuart Nash managed to hold his nerve in front of a noisy crowd to record a 21-19 win and see The George home by four shots.

## Boss Pottinger sets lucky 13 target

CRADLEY boss Will Pottinger is setting his side a target of lucky 13 when Mildenhall visit Perry Barr next Wednesday.

The Heathens have kicked off their National League title defence with three consecutive wins to bag 10-points - and Pottinger is hoping his side can make it four in a row to bag three more as they take on their bitter rivals and move to 13-points.

He said: "We've been pleased with how we've started the season, we can't really complain with three wins in our first three meetings."

"There have been plenty of positive signs and it's been so far so good for us really."

### Speedway

"It's a shame we have a bit of a break before our next meeting, but hopefully we can pick up where we left off against Mildenhall to get three more points on the board."

"The one aspect about the National League which can be frustrating is the gap between fixtures, I'm sure the lads would prefer to be riding more regularly."

And Pottinger admits the controversial league title defeat, when the Heathens lost on a refereeing decision in 2012 to the Fen Tigers, will never

be forgotten. He said: "It still angers me now when I look back on that moment, but we more than made up for it with back-to-back league titles after that."

"It should be a good meeting against Mildenhall, they beat Coventry at the weekend and they will come to Birmingham fancying their chances of taking something from us."

"We will all have to be riding well – and it would be nice if we had the points in the bag before relying on a tense last heat decider"

Admission prices for Cradley meetings at Perry Barr are £11 adults, £8 concessions and £2 children with the match programme available for £3.

## Villa chew up Toffees with Benteke

### Villa 3 Everton 2

CHRISTIAN Benteke's brace inspired Aston Villa to a vital 3-2 victory over lacklustre Everton.

The red-hot striker scored his ninth and 10th goals in eight games to ease Villa to a crucial win and maintain their cushion over the drop zone.

Tom Cleverley added a third just after Romelu Lukaku's penalty gave Everton hope of a comeback.

Phil Jagielka pulled a goal back in injury time but Villa hung on for just their fourth home league win of the season.

The hosts deserved their victory against the poor Toffees, who rarely showed the form which had seen them win five of their last six league games.

Villa are two points above the Premier League bottom three but are now, importantly, above free-falling Newcastle on goal difference in 14th.

Shay Given made his first top-flight start since August 2012 – when he played against Everton – after Brad Guzan was dropped following a shaky performance in the defeat at Manchester City.

Charles N'Zogbia also replaced Carlos Sanchez while Everton brought in Kevin Mirallas and Steven Naismith.

The Toffees were one of the form teams in the Premier League, having beaten Manchester United 3-0 last week, but Villa's start made a mockery of their recent results.

The tenacious hosts looked to cut through Everton early and grabbed a deserved lead after just 10 minutes.

Benteke had threatened already, glancing a header wide, but this time he made it count when he powered in from Fabian Delph's wonderful cross.

N'Zogbia tested Tim Howard with a free-kick as Villa chased a second.

They stifled Everton with Lukaku and Aaron Lennon.

## FA defends Cup ticketing scheme

THE FA has defended the allocation of FA Cup Final tickets after complaints from Villa and Arsenal fans.

Both clubs will receive 25,000 tickets for the May 30 showpiece at Wembley's 90,000-seater stadium.

The FA stressed it is important to reward members and volunteers of the 'football family', while stating 25,000 is the maximum number of tickets offered to any club since the first final at the new Wembley in 2007.

A further 17,000 tickets are on offer to members of Club Wembley, which is effectively a season ticket for the national stadium.

★★★

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketter, Telford.  
Thursday, May 7, 2015

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING  
The recycled content of newspapers in 2014 was 78.5%



# BAGGIES GRAB UNITED SCALP

### Man Utd 0 Albion 1

TONY Pulis's Hawthorns reign might just have its launchpad.

For so long since his arrival on New Year's Day, Pulis' relationship with Baggies fans has felt like a marriage of convenience.

But victory on one of world football's grandest stages has finally given head coach and supporters a joyful, shared experience over which they can bond.

They might not have gone from uneasy bedfellows to bosom buddies quite yet.

But a second successive Baggies triumph at Old Trafford is a hell of a place to start with building a more genuine love affair. Saturday's win had very little in common with the one in September 2013 – in fact the sense of joy at the final whistle was the only thing that felt the same.

Yet while the win for Steve Clarke's men was more thrilling, more shocking and more glorious, Saturday's success was more important.

### Relegation

Because from a position of feeling safe from relegation when they left for Manchester on Friday afternoon, the Baggies arrived at kick-off time on Saturday evening at Old Trafford with an horrendous sequence of results leaving their battle for survival back on. Thanks to brilliant organisation, an iron will and some tremendous performances, Pulis's men pulled off a terrific triumph to move to their unlikely 40-point target with three games still to play.

Boaz Myhill was the hero with a penalty save from Robin van Persie and more fantastic blocks late on.

But the goalkeeper's heroics merely typified the spirit of his team, who clearly revel in games when they have nothing to lose, even if they struggled to live with the pressure of expectation when they were favourites against QPR and Leicester.

And on 63 minutes a counter-attack brought Albion the opening and only goal. Darren Fletcher burst through the middle and was body-checked by Paddy McNair, earning the United defender a booking.

And Brunt blasted the free-kick towards goal, with a huge deflection off Olsson's calf taking the ball past a helpless De Gea.

## Wolves just miss the bus



Nouha Dicko of Wolverhampton Wanderers scores a goal to make it 1-0

### Wolves 4 Millwall 2

WOLVES did their bit with a win and Derby obliged by continuing their Devon Loch-like collapse only for Brentford to win to secure their place in the play-offs.

And to their huge credit, Kenny Jackett's side ended another campaign on an upward trend by finishing with back-to-back victories after taking albeit slender hopes into the final day.

The inquest into where Wolves missed out has been under way a couple of weeks and intensified after the final whistle.

If Saturday's game was to be Sako's last in

gold and black, then he went out in style and signed off with a bang.

His mazy run set up Dicko to put Wolves ahead after 20 minutes.

Dicko then cut inside and set himself up to lash home the second after the break, he was instrumental in the final two goals.

First Forde could only parry his free-kick into the path of Ebanks-Landell to steer home to make it 3-1 with 20 minutes left.

Then on the stroke of the end normal time, he curled one in himself after a lovely dummy turning onto Afofe's quickly-taken corner.

It was a five-star performance from a top-class player.

MAKING CHOOSING TRADERS SAFER

OPEN 7 DAYS 9AM TO 7PM  
**0800 233 5000**  
WWW.SAFER.TO

ALL TRADERS ARE

PASSED BY TRADING STANDARDS	HANKSUTY & IDENTITY CHECKED	HOME & BUSINESS ADDRESSES VERIFIED
LICENCES & INSURANCES VERIFIED	MONITORED ON QUALITY & PRICE	INTERVIEWED

In Partnership with Trading Standards

**NO ROGUE TRADERS HERE**

• Builders • Roofers • Plumbers • Double Glazing • Central Heating & Boilers  
• Electricians • Carpenters • Decorators • Bathrooms • Kitchens • Driveways